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Furman

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2010

David E. Shi Center

The Shi Years in Retrospect PAGE 12

Furman

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SPRING 2010

Volume 53, Number 1

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BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS

Thanks to the legacy of John D. Hollingsworth, Jr., a major scholarship program is attracting more of South Carolina's best and brightest to Furman.

When Greenville businessman and philanthropist John D. Hollingsworth, Jr., died in December 2000, he left instructions that his extensive estate be converted into a trust fund — and designated Furman as one of the major beneficiaries of the income produced each year by the trust.

Hollingsworth, who attended Furman briefly in the 1930s, was an intensely private man who lived modestly and made his work his life. Under his guidance his company, John D. Hollingsworth on Wheels, became one of the world's leading manufacturers of metallic wire for carding machines, which separate textile fibers.

He also compiled extensive holdings in real estate and was reputed to be the largest landholder in South Carolina. At one time he was included on the annual *Forbes* magazine list of the world's wealthiest people.

Furman officials believe that Hollingsworth began considering including the university in his plans in the late 1960s or early 1970s through conversations he had with then president Gordon W. Blackwell, Robert E. "Red" Hughes '38 (a Furman classmate and former university trustee), and other acquaintances.

Shortly after John Johns became president in 1976, he learned of Hollingsworth's intent. "It was to be confidential, but I knew that it was going to be a very large gift," Johns said.

Hollingsworth's will stipulated that his estate — valued at his death at approximately \$290 million — be converted into a philanthropic trust called the Hollingsworth Funds, which would be run by a select board of directors.

Furman and Greenville County public charities would each receive 45 percent of the annual earnings from the Funds, with the remaining 10 percent going to the Greenville YMCA.

Hollingsworth's generosity made it possible in 2006 for Furman

to establish the Hollingsworth Scholarships — \$25,000 annual awards to 20 incoming students from South Carolina who show unusual potential for making a difference in their communities and in the world.

As Furman president David Shi said at the time the program was created, "Furman wants to encourage more of South Carolina's brightest students to remain in the state and take advantage of the quality education we have to offer. It is our expectation that the Hollingsworth Scholars will become future leaders in the state and beyond."

The scholarships are renewable each year as long as the students maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.70 or higher. Recipients are expected to live on campus for four years and become fully involved in the Furman community.

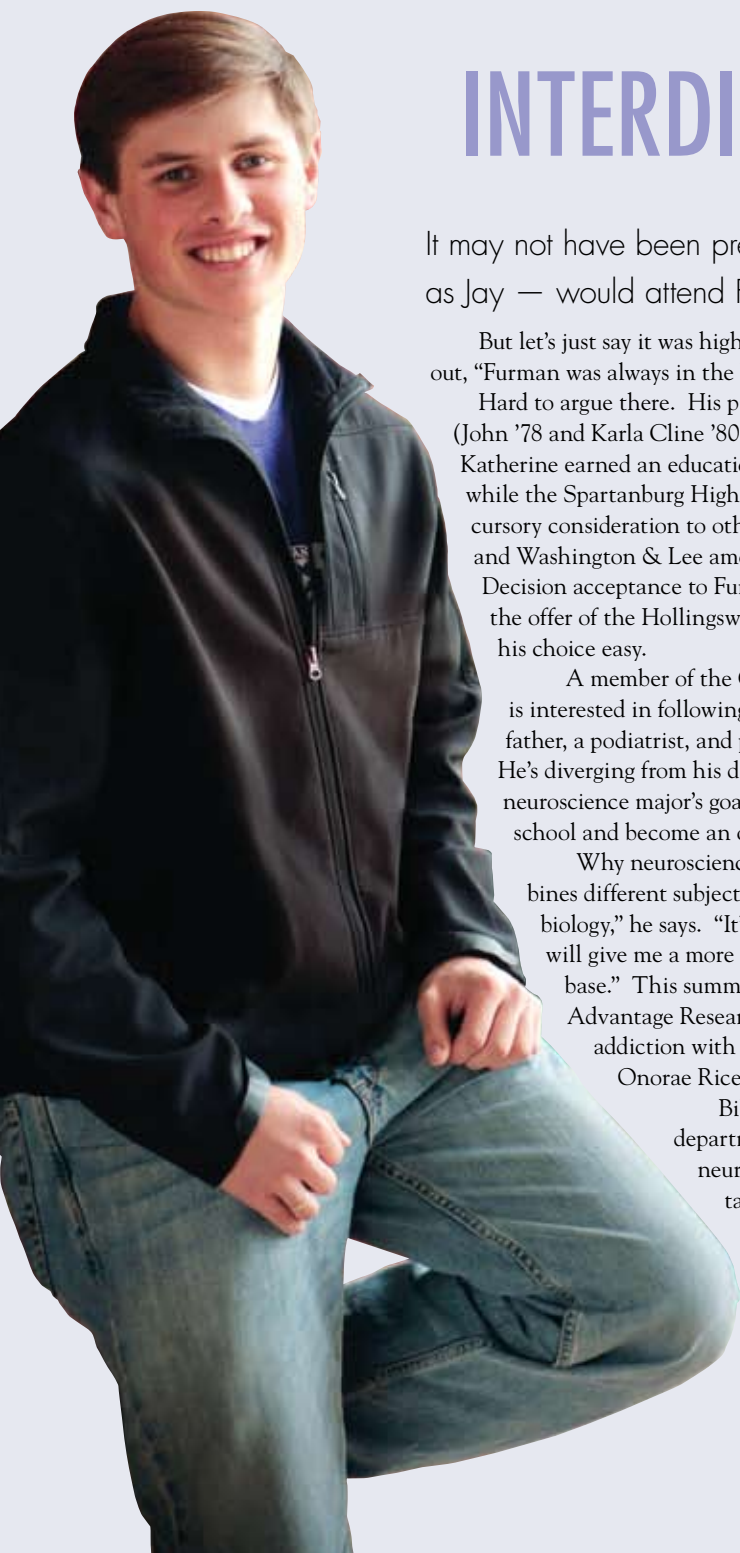
The awards also provide support for the scholars to participate in a study away trip, a summer internship or research experience, and seminars to foster community service. Selection is based on high school

academic performance, intellectual curiosity, potential for success, school and community involvement, leadership skills, and a recommendation from a community leader.

The 2009-10 academic year marked the first in which all Furman classes included Hollingsworth Scholars. On the following pages we profile a representative scholar from each class, providing an idea of the type of students who are using the award to make a difference in their lives — and eventually, in the lives of others.



John D. Hollingsworth (left) with Buck Welling, chairman emeritus of the board of Hollingsworth Funds, Inc. Furman awarded Welling an honorary degree last fall. Opposite: Hollingsworth on business in Germany, early '70s. Photos courtesy Buck Welling.



INTERDISCIPLINARY INTERESTS

It may not have been preordained that Thomas John Patrick III — better known as Jay — would attend Furman.

But let's just say it was highly likely. As he points out, "Furman was always in the blood."

Hard to argue there. His parents are alumni (John '78 and Karla Cline '80 Patrick), and his sister Katherine earned an education degree in 2009. So while the Spartanburg High School graduate gave cursory consideration to other schools — Clemson and Washington & Lee among them — his Early Decision acceptance to Furman, combined with the offer of the Hollingsworth Scholarship, made his choice easy.

A member of the Class of 2012, Patrick is interested in following in the footsteps of his father, a podiatrist, and pursuing a medical career. He's diverging from his dad's path, though; the neuroscience major's goal is to attend dental school and become an orthodontist.

Why neuroscience? "I like how it combines different subjects — psychology, chemistry, biology," he says. "It's a good mix and I think will give me a more well-rounded academic base." This summer he'll be a Furman Advantage Research Fellow, studying addiction with psychology professor Onorae Rice.

Bill Blaker of the biology department, who heads the neuroscience program and taught Patrick this spring in the interdisciplinary "Brain and Mind" class, says Patrick's choice of major jibes perfectly with his strengths.

"Aside from being bright, personable, friendly and a good science student, one of the main things about Jay is that his interests and abilities go beyond just one field," says Blaker. "He's able to excel in more than one area, to see concepts that cross disciplines. And that's a big part of what Furman's all about."

Last summer Patrick was able to test his career interest through an internship with Healthy Smiles of Spartanburg, a non-profit that visits schools, churches and recreation programs and screens children for dental needs. "It's designed to find and help those who might otherwise fall through the cracks," says Patrick.

While shadowing the dentists and assisting with the exams, Patrick worked directly with the children by making presentations about the importance of oral health care, using a lighthearted approach to deliver a serious message.

Although he's pursuing a heavy academic load at Furman, Patrick has found time to become involved in a variety of campus activities. In addition to intramural and club sports, he's a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and serves on the Student Alumni Council, which plans a host of programs for Homecoming and Founders Week.

During 2009-10 he was also parliamentarian for the Residential Life Council, whose role is to be a liaison between students and the housing department while working to improve residence life at Furman.

In that regard, Patrick hopes RLC can address what he calls the divide between Lakeside Housing (formerly the women's complex) and South Housing.

"The students in those two areas don't tend to know each other very well," he says. "We need to find a way to have more interaction between students on both sides of campus."



PASSION MEETS CALLING

Azra Aslam thought she knew how her Furman career would play out when she arrived on campus in the fall of 2006.

She would pursue an art/premedical studies curriculum, go on to medical school and eventually work with a service program such as Doctors Without Borders.

After her freshman year, she got the chance to test her interest when she traveled to Kenya for six weeks as part of a medical mission team. But rather than confirm her plans, the trip made her realize that this career path wasn't for her, after all.

Not that the work wasn't worthwhile or fulfilling. It just felt a bit impersonal. "The doctors were seeing maybe a thousand patients a day," she says, so there was little time to provide much personal attention. "I came away thinking I'd rather try to give people a *reason* to live."

Although she remained committed to a career in service, upon her return to Furman she decided to switch from pre-med to political science. She continued with her art studies and even had an exhibit in her hometown, Columbia, of a series of paintings inspired by her African experience.

But until last fall, art was something she says she did simply because she enjoyed it: "I hadn't really found a way to connect it to my calling," she says.

Then she enrolled in "Women and the Arts." During the class, she did a project on micro-financing in which she learned how banks provide small loans to individuals — 95 percent of them women — in developing countries to help them start their own businesses. These women frequently are responsible for supporting their families, and micro-financing is designed to help them do just that.

Suddenly, Aslam saw a way to combine her dual interests. Many women, she notes, could use or develop their artistic talents in such areas as ceramics or embroidery to earn money, and given her artistic skills, she could help them. After graduation this spring, she intends to earn master's degrees in business administration and international development, then work in micro-financing.

Aslam, who is of Indian descent, was able to use her Hollingsworth internship to travel to Chennai, India, last summer and spend 10 weeks working at Olcott Memorial High School (www.olcott-school-chennai.org), which serves children from disadvantaged backgrounds. There she taught English and designed an art project — a mural — to help the students develop critical thinking skills.

A graduate of Airport High School, Aslam says she probably would not have come to Furman without the Hollingsworth award. Her father, who runs an import business, wanted her to follow her older sister and attend Columbia College in her hometown.

But doctors at Lexington Medical Center, where she had an internship while in high school, recommended Furman because of its pre-med program. A visit to the campus convinced her that "this is where I wanted to be," and the scholarship helped seal the deal. Now, she says, "Dad's OK with my decision."

Furman's course in "Beginning Hindi" also gave her a chance to improve her skills in the language her father speaks to her at home. "I could understand and translate it," she says, "but my vocabulary and writing were weak."

Now her more refined language abilities will likely come in handy as she works to provide greater economic opportunities for those who need them most.



POLITICS ON HIS MIND

You'll excuse Ben Saul if sometimes he feels a little like a stranger in a strange land.

On a campus where the student body leans to the conservative side, Saul, a member of the Class of 2013, is unabashedly proud to proclaim himself a Democrat. He's campaigned for Barack Obama and gone door-to-door in his hometown of Greenwood in support of Floyd Nicholson's candidacy for the South Carolina House (he won). This summer he's set to intern with Frank Holleman — Greenville lawyer, member of Furman's Class of '76, and candidate for the Democratic nomination for state superintendent of education.

While Saul wears his credentials on his sleeve, he doesn't seem distressed or discomfited about being in the minority on campus. And he's also willing to give the "other side" its due.

"I've been a little disappointed with the lack of progressive speakers that have been brought to campus this year," he says. "The Conservative Students for a Better Tomorrow is the best-run student organization at Furman. They do a great job of bringing in provocative conservatives to speak, and they use their money well to get across their point of view.

"I'm hoping I can work to develop another group that will bring speakers who will help provide more balanced discussions and topics for debate for the campus community."

Saul, who plans to major in political science, could also find

himself in a semi-awkward situation this fall. One of the six Republican candidates (as of this writing) for the superintendent's position is Brent Nelsen, professor of political science at . . . Furman. Should Holleman and Nelsen win their June 8 primaries, they would set up a Furman showdown in the fall.

Saul laughs about the idea of taking sides in a battle between two Paladins, then points out, quite reasonably, that there's no reason to worry about it until he has to: "Neither one of them is officially the candidate yet."

Whether the next superintendent is Holleman, Nelsen or someone else, Saul will keep a close watch on the office. He hopes someday to enter state politics, and education policy is his primary interest.

The summer before his senior year in high school, Saul attended the Emerging Public Leaders program sponsored by Furman's Richard W. Riley Institute. There he watched the documentary "Corridor of Shame," which details the challenges and neglect faced by rural public schools in South Carolina. It had a profound effect on him, he says, and adds, "I'm a graduate of a public high school [Emerald], but I also attended private schools. So I've seen the disparities."

The Hollingsworth Scholarship, he says, was a major factor in his decision to enroll at Furman over such schools as Wofford, Davidson and Wake Forest. He's enjoyed the perks of the program, from the chance to develop his leadership skills and engage in service opportunities to special invitations to meet prominent visitors to campus. One example: Christine Todd Whitman (former Environmental Protection Agency head).

And he has his eyes on future internship opportunities, including Furman's Washington program and the Wilkins State Legislative Affairs Fellowship Program with the South Carolina legislature.

For someone who's thinking law school and politics down the road, such experiences would be a perfect fit.



SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Since arriving at Furman in 2007, Shannon Cantwell has spent about as much time away from school as she has on campus.

She's traveled to Swaziland to participate in international relief efforts with the humanitarian group Heart for Africa, to Latin America on a study abroad trip, to Belgium as an intern with the European Parliament, and to the London School of Economics and Political Science for a research internship — all with the help of Furman programs ranging from the Hollingsworth Scholarship to the Furman Advantage.

This summer she's doing a five-week internship with the Canadian Parliament in Ottawa, after which she will lead four fellow student-athletes — David Barrington '11

(football), Ben Granger '12 (football), Jessica Pate '13 (cross country and track) and Raul Rodriguez '13 (football and track) — to Swaziland in late July for a two-week service project at the orphanage where she worked previously. (Learn more at www.athletes4africa.net — the non-profit she established in conjunction with Heart for Africa.)

Oh, did we fail to mention she's a member of the track and cross country teams, a recipient of the Furman Bisher Academic-Athletic Scholarship and a six-time qualifier for the World Championships of Irish Step Dance? That she's an outstanding student with a double major in economics and political science? And that when she returns to campus in the fall — "I'm staying put next year," she says with a laugh — she'll be president of the Class of 2011?

There's plenty more, but you get the picture. Shannon Cantwell is a seeker and a doer, with a goal of attending graduate school in economics and public policy and pursuing a career in international development.

Her ambitions have been fueled, she says, by her undergraduate experiences. "Furman has provided so many opportunities that I don't think I would have gotten at a larger school," says Cantwell, a graduate of Wando High in Mount Pleasant. "Study abroad trips, international internships — it's been a blessing to receive so much encouragement and to work with faculty and staff who are eager to connect you with the right programs and resources."

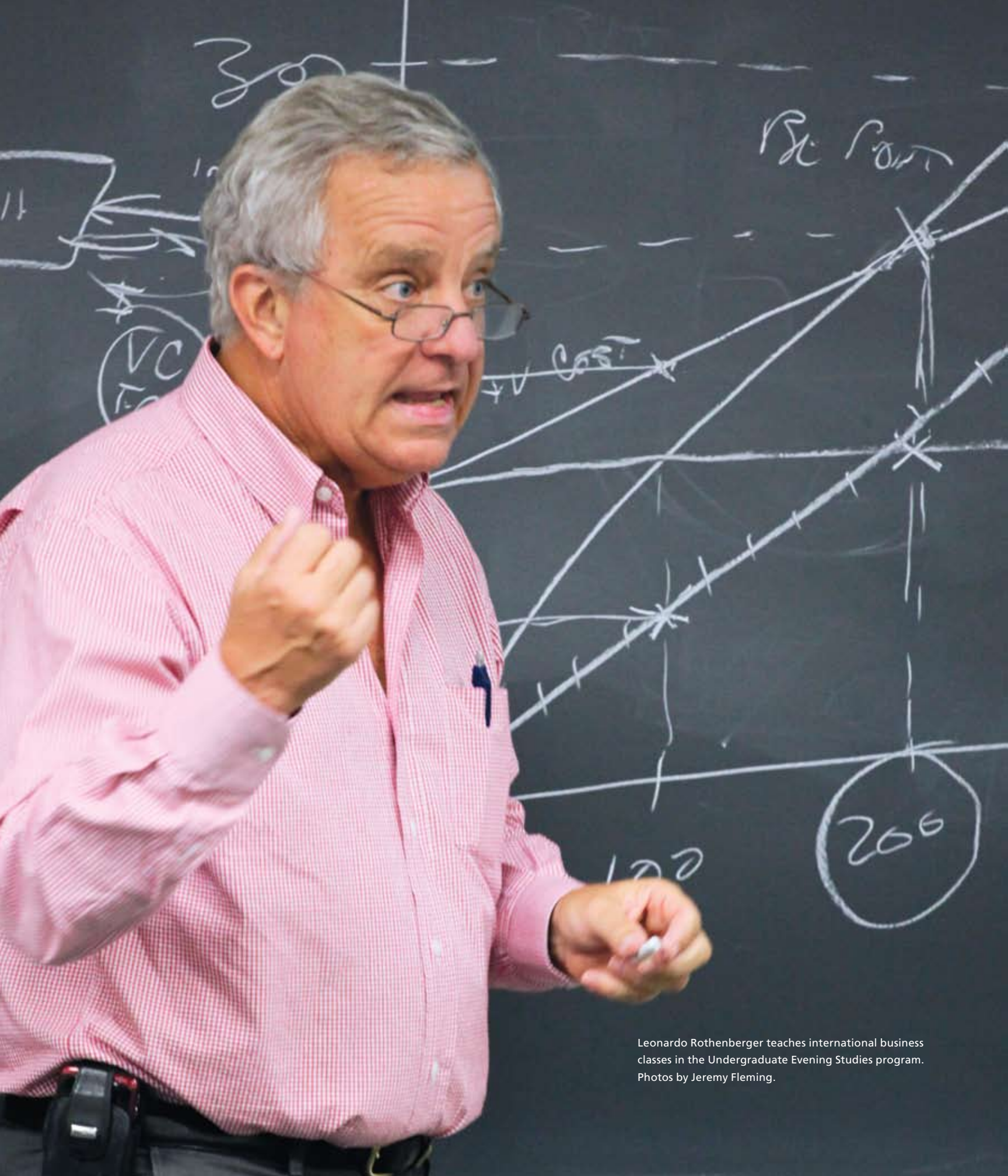
Yet while she's spent much of her college career away from Furman, she's still found time to participate in athletics. In addition to cross country, she runs the middle distances in track.

"I'm a walk-on, and I understand my limitations," she says. "But I do it because I love it. Practice can be a real stress reliever after a hard day in class. Being on a team, you build great relationships. I've learned a lot about time management, and Coach [Gene] Mullin has been very supportive and understanding with my schedule and study away trips."

Right now she's finalizing plans for the Africa project, which she has organized and raised money for over the past year. She's proud that four other student-athletes are partnering with her.

While she'll no doubt demonstrate her dancing skills for the youngsters — she says they especially enjoy trying to mimic her movements — she adds, "The director of the orphanage emphasizes building a strong, well-rounded foundation for the children and exposing them to a wide variety of things. So we'll work with them in many different areas."

It represents an opportunity for Cantwell to model her commitment to servant leadership — and to share it with others. [F]



Leonardo Rothenberger teaches international business classes in the Undergraduate Evening Studies program. Photos by Jeremy Fleming.

AFTER HOURS

Students in Furman's evening program may not be 'traditional' undergraduates, but their goals and objectives are the same.

After high school Regina Ellison was thrilled to enroll at Furman, but she wasn't able to return after her freshman year.

For the next 24 years she raised a family, built a successful career in health care management, and enjoyed a happy life. Yet she couldn't shake the feeling that something was missing.

Two years ago, as she helped her son M.J., now 18, register to take the SAT, she arrived at the section on parents' education with a sense of dread. She hated having to check the box next to "some college." She shared this with her son, who simply asked, "Why don't you finish?"

She realized he had a point. And thanks to Furman's Undergraduate Evening Studies program and two years of intense work, Ellison was set to graduate with honors on May 8.

"Since 1986 I've walked around this campus, back to when my kids were in strollers, and I used to think, this is my school, this is where I'm supposed to be," she says. "So I'm doing somersaults."

The Undergraduate Evening Studies program at Furman allows people who work full time or have other responsibilities to earn their college degree in business or accounting, but at a lower cost and with a flexible schedule.

"When we started 50 years ago, one of the major tenets was to make it affordable for non-traditional professional students," says Brett Barclay, assistant director of continuing education who is in his third year of directing the UES program. As education costs rise nationwide, Furman has managed to keep costs down — about a third less than for traditional day students — while providing a top-quality education.

Undergraduate Evening Studies at Furman had 198 students in 2009-10, up from 127 three years ago. While interest is high, Barclay wants to control growth to make sure accepted students meet university standards. Of the approximately 200 prospective students he talks with per semester, only about 20 are typically admitted.

"Our retention and graduation rates are higher than schools throughout the country and region," he says — 94 percent versus the national average of around 50 percent. "We admit only those we think will graduate and stay long term. We want to see that prospective students can manage the relationship between work and school at the same time."

Barclay says that UES students have a number of priorities. About 70 percent are happy with their career paths but need a college degree to advance in their companies. Others may need prerequisites for an MBA program or a certain number of hours to sit for a CPA exam. And some simply want to broaden their horizons.

In line with Furman's day undergraduates, evening students follow a rigorous liberal arts curriculum. Ray Hathaway, who graduated from the evening program in 1999, appreciated the liberal arts focus while earning his business degree over the course of eight years. "I liked the business courses, but I remember the religion, philosophy and literature courses," he says. "It was a nice mix."

Hathaway graduated from high school in 1968 and joined the Air Force. Afterward he attended college for a year but, married and with a child, he needed to focus on other responsibilities and didn't have time to get a degree.

He went to work for IBM, starting in computer repairs before moving to software support and sales. "I worked my way into those

positions," he says. "But if I'd had to apply, I wouldn't have been considered because I didn't have a degree."

After moving to Travelers Rest, he fell in love with the Furman campus, often taking his kids to the lake for picnics and stopping by after work to go running. One day he told his wife, "I would love to go to Furman and get a degree. That would be a dream." She replied, "Why don't you do that?"

So he did — and wound up throwing a big



party at the end of his eight-year educational adventure. He and some classmates started a banquet just for UES graduates in which they thanked the family members and friends who were instrumental in their success.

"I had to thank my wife for her support while I was writing papers and spending weekends in the library," he says. At the banquet, now a UES tradition, participants talk about their ups and downs — births, deaths, marriages and "the struggles of achieving this dream."

Hathaway is now retired, but he continues to value his Furman degree. Thanks to his liberal arts classes, he says, "I find myself seeing connections. I have a richer life than if I hadn't gone to Furman, I know that for sure."



Ray Hathaway, who earned his business degree over the course of eight years, says he appreciated the UES program's liberal arts focus.

The curriculum in the evening program mirrors that of the day program, with slight differences in the mathematics and foreign language requirements. In addition, evening students are not required to complete the Cultural Life Program, although many choose to attend university performances and events. As Regina Ellison says, "It's just wonderful to be a part of the campus. I've been attending arts and music programs at Furman since 1986."

Staff and professors have found that while evening students have very different lives than day students, they share some similarities. The average age of evening students is currently about 30, down from 33 three years ago. The fastest growing age group in the program is 25 to 29.

"I think it's a sign of the times," Barclay says, pointing out that because of today's difficult economic climate, many young people are discovering they need to bolster their education to get ahead.

Accounting is an increasingly popular major because it is viewed as a steady career that has been less affected by the recession than other professions. Barclay says about three-fifths of Furman's UES students are accounting majors. "The kicker is, the accounting major is very difficult," he says, "so we are cautious about whom we admit into accounting."

Bill Ellis, a 1998 UES graduate who has taught accounting in the day and evening programs, says both populations are "exceptionally bright and motivated," but points out that evening students bring more life experiences to the classroom.

"I encourage the sharing of examples," Ellis says. "We do a lot of that in the evening." Although day students tend to learn skills and ideas that they can apply once they embark on a career, evening students put theory into practice each day — and bring the results back to class.

Brad Bechtold, head of continuing education at Furman, points to studies showing that adult students "want to be engaged, to be part of the discussion. They want to apply information to their lives in tangible ways."

Hathaway agrees that adult students may respond to ideas differently than younger students who have never worked full time. "When you don't have experience, you may take what you hear as the way it is," he says. "But night students don't mind arguing with professors."

Another trait evening students share is determination. Eighty-nine percent of the students have full-time jobs, and many have children or other family responsibilities.

As a result, Barclay says, they have clearly defined goals and objectives. "I'm convinced that understanding what they are getting involved with from the start gives them the motivation they need to finish. I don't have the hard and fast data, but they know what pitfalls and challenges they face, they accept that it's not going to be an easy road, and they have the tenacity," he says.

Ellis agrees. "The students are so capable, and they'll sacrifice a lot to improve their careers," he says. "There is an incredible motivation with students in our program. They are on a mission."

Christian Habegger, who graduated in 2007, found that his life experiences gave him the focus and motivation he didn't have in his younger years.

After high school Habegger attended several different universities before finally deciding he didn't need a degree. For a while he ran a business with a friend, then began bartending at the high-end Cliffs Communities in northwestern Greenville County while contemplating his next move. Talking with Cliffs residents helped him realize he needed to finish his education.

"These people were where I wanted to be," he says. "So I swallowed my pride and looked around to see what my options were."

Married, with bills piling up, he needed a program that would fit his schedule but also offered name recognition and prestige. He says he found both at Furman.

He started in 2004 and three years later had a degree with a double major in accounting and business. Now an accountant at Cherry Bekaert & Holland in Greenville, he says that by the time he started at Furman, "I had figured out what I wanted to do, and I was a lot more focused on my goals. In my teens and early 20s, I didn't know what I wanted to be."

Habegger also noticed that his fellow students were equally focused. "When you are paying for it yourself, or your company is paying, you learn that you don't want to waste your money," he says.

As with students in the day program, the recent recession has made it more difficult for some to fund their studies. According to Barclay, half the companies

that once reimbursed employees for their coursework have dropped that benefit, and some students have lost their jobs.

But in some ways the downturn has made many UES students even more motivated to increase their job security. Barclay works with those who need help with funding. "Some take two classes instead of three, and some are taking on debt, but we haven't lost one student as a result of economic issues," he says.

Bechtold, a 1988 day program graduate who joined the Furman staff in 2001, says he is pleased with the direction of Undergraduate Evening Studies.

"We want students who can accomplish the quality of work that is expected of a Furman student," he says. "We're offering the same liberal arts education that prepares them for broad thinking and the ability to write and synthesize information in intelligent ways. The constituents may be different from traditional day students, but the mission and objectives are the same."

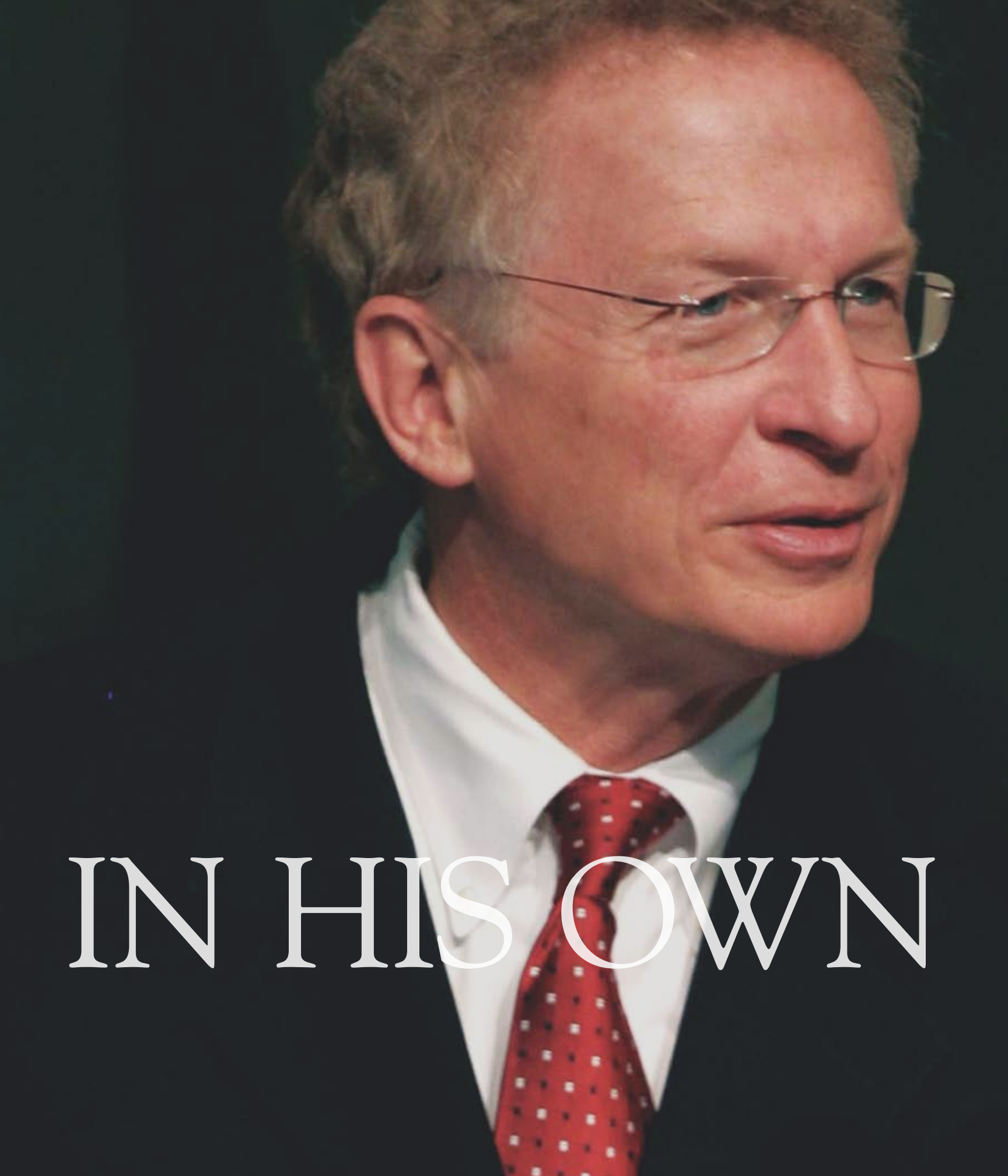
UES graduates agree that while they may take longer to complete their education, the feeling of accomplishment is just as sweet, as are the benefits that come with receiving a Furman degree.

"I'm not a Furman grad with an asterisk," Ray Hathaway says proudly. "I'm a real one." [F]

The author, a 1994 Furman graduate, is a freelance writer in Simpsonville, S.C.



With the encouragement of her son, M.J., Regina Ellison decided to return to Furman at night. She graduated this spring.



IN HIS OWN

Over the last 16 years, *Furman* magazine has chronicled the course of the university under the leadership of David E. Shi '73. As his presidency winds down toward its conclusion June 30, we asked him to discuss the challenges, achievements and decisions of his presidency, and how he dealt with the complexities of the office.

WORDS

FM: You didn't have a great deal of administrative experience prior to being named president in 1994. What was the learning curve like?

SHI: It was an eye-opening whirlwind. Nothing can really prepare someone for the array of demands and responsibilities associated with being a college president.

Within a year (1993-94) I went from being chair of the history department at Davidson College to being Furman's vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty (succeeding John Crabtree) to being named president upon John Johns' retirement. Every day I encountered new people, new activities, new projects, new challenges and new opportunities.

Yet I discovered that common sense, open communication, engaged listening and incredible support from the Furman community, as well as many early mornings and late nights in the office, carried me through a first year that literally raced by. I believe my earlier experience in athletics and the military prepared me for serving and leading the university — and made up for my inexperience as an academic administrator. While developing a strong administrative team and benefiting from faculty, staff and student contributions, I found that placing people with the right projects was crucial for Furman's success. I quickly saw that what worked to motivate one staff member did not necessarily work for another.

And I learned to ask lots of people for lots of money. (I now have palms on both sides of my hands.) I'll never forget the first time I asked an alumnus for a million dollars. He almost choked on his lunch before regaining his composure and saying yes.

Perhaps because I lacked experience, I erred on the side of openness. This included making the university's budget available to all, encouraging everyone to feel comfortable suggesting new ideas, and pushing everyone to exert even more effort on behalf of a university that had just experienced a traumatic (and expensive) separation from its parent, the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

One of the veteran vice presidents commented after my first few years that we were moving Furman forward "at warp speed" with a management philosophy of "best new idea wins." I wish I had come up with that slogan, for it conveyed the sense of urgency I had for Furman to raise its sights and fulfill its potential by being less hierarchical in its culture and more innovative and national in its ambitions.



In your inaugural address, you stated that your hopes for Furman included becoming “more cosmopolitan in outlook, more diverse in its composition, more international in its interests and more sophisticated about the implications of technology.” How has the university progressed in these areas?

Perhaps the single most important benefit provided by the separation of the university and the South Carolina Baptist Convention was the opportunity for Furman to elect its own trustees. Prior to 1992, all trustees had to be resident South Carolina Baptists. So the chance to recruit alumni and friends from across the nation with tremendous expertise and resources may well be the most important factor in the development of modern Furman. For 16 years I have had the good fortune of working with

a distinguished group of dedicated trustees who have tolerated my penchant for new initiatives and for pursuing audacious goals. They have been incredibly supportive, even when they may not have had complete confidence in what I was proposing.

Like most new presidents, I initiated a comprehensive visioning process. It was invigorating to solicit everyone’s dreams for Furman and then to consolidate those dreams into our first comprehensive strategic plan in 1997. Called “Furman 2001,” it adopted engaged learning as its centerpiece as a means of elevating Furman’s stature as a national liberal arts college. As a result of “Furman 2001,” we began recruiting students from a broader geography and we bolstered an already strong study away program. We also focused attention and resources on the fast-developing field of information technology.

Furman today is much more cosmopolitan and diverse in its composition. The profiles of our student body from 1993 and 2009 reveal significant increases in geographic and racial diversity. In 1993 only 5 percent were students of color; that number is now 15 percent. In 1993 we had students from 20 countries and 25 states; today we have students from 47 nations and 46 states. The percentage of faculty members of color has quadrupled, and we now offer many more study away programs, both abroad and across the United States. So Furman continues to prepare young people for leadership roles in a truly global society.

We are certainly more sophisticated technologically today than we were in 1993. We have invested millions of dollars and lots of “thinking time” trying to ensure that the Furman community has state-of-the-art learning technologies and the most efficient communication systems. Our alumni hear from us more often and receive more substantive information as a result of our efforts to incorporate sophisticated social networking tools.

What events stand out as highlights of your presidency?

As a historian, I know that it will take the passage of time to determine which initiatives during my tenure will prove to be the most significant. But several possibilities spring to mind.

When I arrived in 1993, Furman had the lowest residential rate of any of the top 50 national liberal arts colleges. Only 60 percent of the students lived on campus. So we set about designing what was called North Village, a 1,100-bed on-campus apartment complex that opened in the late 1990s. It has been remarkably successful. Now almost 96 percent of our students live on campus, and our residential character is bearing fruit in many ways, among them higher retention and graduation rates, higher degrees of student involvement in campus life, and higher rates of alumni giving.



Renovating and expanding the library, the student center, the science facilities and Furman Hall have also had a dramatic effect on the learning/living environment. The Charles E. Daniel Chapel has invigorated spiritual life on campus, and the acquisition of Cherrydale has given our alumni a handsome campus home. Helping to make the Furman community more



The Shi years have included visits from a host of national and international leaders, among them John Glenn, former astronaut and senator, in 2006; Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, president of Liberia, who was awarded an honorary degree in 2009; and Hillary Rodham Clinton in 2003 (and again during the 2008 presidential campaign).

diverse has brought substantial benefits, as have our efforts to forge even stronger ties to the greater Greenville community. Quadrupling the value of Furman's endowment has given the university much greater financial strength and flexibility, and has enabled us to make faculty salaries competitive with our peer schools.

Working with the faculty in recent years to revise the curriculum and adopt a new academic calendar was an important development in the life of the university, and the benefits of such innovations will reverberate for years to come. The animating goal of the curricular revision was to create a more robust intellectual climate, inside and outside of the classroom. The curricular transformation included the creation of a first-year seminar program, a three-week "May Experience" as a laboratory for curricular innovation, and revised General Education Requirements that focus on broad ways of thinking. These changes have helped to promote greater academic creativity and intellectual engagement across the campus.

Of course, I have also taken keen personal and professional interest in making sustainability a priority at Furman. For the university to flourish in coming decades and to reduce the rates of annual tuition increases, we must operate

more efficiently. Through energy conservation and the installation of renewable energy systems, we are moving toward energy independence and reducing annual operating expenses.

Equally important is the process of raising awareness among the Furman community about the need to use energy and natural resources more responsibly. Furman has become justly recognized as a national leader in the effort to infuse the principles and practices of sustainability within the curriculum and in the way the campus operates. Our efforts related to energy efficiency and environmental stewardship came together in the fall of 2009 through the creation of the university's first sustainability master plan, titled "Sustainable Furman." It provides a blueprint for Furman to become carbon neutral in its operations by 2026, our 200th anniversary.



As far as specific events are concerned, the most significant was the public announcement of the magisterial bequest by John D. Hollingsworth, Jr. [see page 2]. I was at home on the Sunday afternoon in December of 2000 when I learned that Mr. Hollingsworth had died. Within minutes the calls started flooding in: *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, *Forbes* magazine, and the local media. All of them wanted to know about the potential impact of the Hollingsworth Funds on Furman. And there was great speculation about the dollar value of his bequest, ranging from \$100 million to \$500 million. That Hollingsworth was such a reclusive figure made the public curiosity

even greater. Although it will take many more years for the Hollingsworth bequest to mature, it will eventually become as important as The Duke Endowment to Furman's financial future.



Has the culture of the student body and the faculty changed during your 16 years?

Today's students are more sophisticated and more engaged. When I arrived there was considerable tension between the students and faculty and the administration, in part because of the prolonged dispute between the university and the S.C. Baptist Convention and the financial pressures created by the loss of support from the convention. I believe the relationships among students, faculty and administration have improved dramatically. The faculty is much larger than in 1993, much younger on average, and more diverse in its backgrounds and interests. They have played a key role in many innovations related to the academic program and our sustainability efforts, and they remain extraordinarily dedicated to the institution and to the profession of teaching and scholarship.

On occasion, a university's decisions in regard to policies or speakers upset people both on and off campus. Discuss some of the challenges you faced in this regard.

Great universities are often crossroads of controversy — as they should be. True, controversies can be unpleasant. They unleash passions,

inflame rhetoric, foster misrepresentations and generate anger. That Furman is located in the “buckle of the Bible Belt” tends to heighten the possibility and intensity of controversy.

Some topics, such as sexual orientation, gender roles, race relations, political partisanship and access to alcoholic beverages, are especially volatile because they often generate visceral reactions rather than measured reflection. Yet it is precisely these sorts of incendiary issues that are often most deserving of discussion and examination. The mandate of a national liberal arts college such as Furman is not to insulate students but to expose them to competing ideas. Controversy, in other words, can be one of our best teachers. It is critical to have a healthy mix of opinions and outlooks on campus. In fact, Furman's official statement of its character and values declares that the university promotes “freedom of inquiry . . . in an atmosphere free from provincial restrictions upon it.”

During my presidency, we have been lambasted from all sides for hosting speakers such as Newt Gingrich, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Dr. Bob Jones, Oliver North, Robert Kennedy, Jr., Madeleine Albright and President George W. Bush. But how well a university balances the competing claims of intellectual and cultural diversity is an index to its health, and how well

it channels controversy into learning is a measure of its maturity.

Four decades ago, in 1970, Furman alumnus and trustee Clement Haynsworth, a graduate of Harvard Law School and a distinguished federal judge deemed too conservative by the U.S. Senate to sit on the Supreme Court, said that “no one has a right to shout down a speaker whom others wish to hear.” He told Furman students that there would inevitably be “occurrences on this campus you deplore. There will be articles in the campus papers you do not like.” But he concluded that such controversial ideas and flamboyant forms of expression were crucial aspects of higher education. I hope that Furman will continue to be a place where the hardest questions are engaged, the most pressing issues are confronted, and different opinions are heard.

You've worked to build stronger bonds between Furman and the Greenville community. How important is that relationship to Furman's future?

I often tell people that Furman and Greenville's futures are yoked together — and that's a good thing. Both the city and the campus radiate energy, and we have developed an array of partnerships and a culture of collaboration.

The most striking change since my student days at Furman has been the revitalization of downtown Greenville. It is a tremendous asset now to the university and will continue to be so. When we market Furman to prospective students, professors and staff members, we highlight Greenville as one of our primary amenities.

The Heller Service Corps continues to enable hundreds of students to work as volunteers in Greenville's many social service agencies and schools, and Furman's new facility on Main Street, called FYI, is a hive of programs and events. The Younts Conference Center on the Furman campus

has also become a popular venue for many community activities.

Our burgeoning continuing education programs involve thousands of people from the community in the life of the campus, and Bridges to a Brighter Future, which helps Greenville-area high school students fulfill their potential and go on to college, has been named the best summer enrichment program in the nation. Furman is also in the process

of working with Greenville social agencies and municipal departments to organize a Community Conservation Corps, whereby Furman volunteers help “weatherize” low-income homes in the community. We worked on our first houses this spring.

We have made a conscious effort to identify Furman as “a private university with a public mission.” The cornerstone of this statewide effort has been the public policy and educational programs offered through the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership. Created 10 years ago, it has far surpassed our expectations and become our primary portal to statewide, regional and even national exposure.

How do you believe Furman is perceived today by the higher education community?

Furman’s national stature is growing and improving. Reputation is built upon the accomplishments of your graduates and faculty and the national exposure generated by your programs and innovations.

We have succeeded in increasing Furman’s national exposure on numerous fronts. Furman is garnering more grants from prestigious national philanthropies, such as the Andrew Mellon, Howard Hughes and Guggenheim foundations. More and more higher education leaders list Furman among the best liberal arts colleges in the nation, in large part because so many of our students go on to attend the finest graduate



and professional schools, in part because of our success in emphasizing undergraduate research, in-depth internships, extensive study away opportunities, living/learning communities whereby students with similar academic interests live together on campus, and the addition or strengthening of academic majors and concentrations in Asian studies, environmental studies, poverty studies, women’s and gender studies, Latin American studies, communication studies and neuroscience. We are also known for our academic innovations and leadership development programs.

If you had one chance for a “do-over,” is there anything you would have done differently — or wish might have turned out differently?

If I had had a “do-over” wand for the last 16 years, I’m sure I would have used it often. On a very serious note, I wish that we had not lost six students to accidents and disease during my presidency. Student funerals are the worst duty imaginable for a college president.

In terms of my presidential decisions, I have made many mistakes, most of them involving personnel issues or communication lapses. As Dan Quayle once said, “I stand by my misstatements.” I also would have made my speeches shorter.

Shi demonstrated his singing talents in 1999 when he joined folk group Peter, Paul and Mary on the Timmons Arena stage. He could frequently be seen chatting up students while making his way across campus. President George W. Bush’s appearance at the 2008 Commencement was among the most controversial events of the Shi years.





Furman students organized "Shi Night" at the Greenville Drive (Class A minor league team) baseball stadium April 14 to honor the outgoing president. During his 16 years as president, Shi says, students have become "more sophisticated and more engaged."

What do you see as the key challenges Furman faces over the next 10 to 15 years?

We need to become an even more efficient institution, thereby enabling us to dampen the annual increases in tuition. We also need to continue efforts to build Furman's endowment, better engage our students and alumni, and continue to increase the diversity of the Furman community. I hope that Furman will continue to be an active force for progressive social change, intellectual vitality and community-based research. More specifically, in coming years Furman will need to renovate its original residence halls, increase the amount of financial aid awarded, increase the number of applicants for the freshman class, and sustain its efforts to be a university widely known for the quality of its teaching, dedication of its staff and generosity of its alumni.

Talk about your post-presidency plans.

I have always planned to return to the history classroom and to write more books. In addition, our first (and only) grandchild, Lily Marie, lives in Greenville, and Susan and I are eager to spend more time with her. I plan to travel

and to remain on several national boards. Beyond that, I have not finalized my plans after June 30, but I will take some time to decompress and retool, write two books, and prepare to teach again.

If you could sit down today and write a letter of advice to yourself in 1994, shortly after you were named president, what would it say?

President-elect Rod Smolla asked me that very question recently, and I gave him a two-word response first uttered by Caesar Augustus: "Hasten slowly."

The university community expects a new president to be vigorous, engaged and creative, but it also expects the new president to be attentive to the strength of tradition and to be a good listener. So one needs to convey both dynamism and patience, fresh ideas as well as acknowledgement of the many good things that are already in place. It is a delicate balancing act.

Whatever amount of time you expect to devote to fundraising, quadruple it. I'll never forget what John Johns told me at my inauguration: "They can say what they want to, boy, but the name of the game is MONEY."

I would say, to myself or anyone assuming this position, "Enjoy yourself." Being Furman's president is the best job in the world. It is a complex, varied and rewarding calling that allows you to make a difference in the lives of talented young people and in the quality of life for society at large.

Be prepared to talk with, listen to and work with an incredible variety of people from many different backgrounds with a multitude of perspectives. Be patient yet decisive, be cool under pressure, cherish the people you work with, and get used to chicken and green beans on the speaking circuit. Spend as much time as possible with the students, for they reinvigorate you. Smile a lot, even when you would rather frown, and remember the cheer that Dr. Johns made famous: FU all the time! [F]

Photos illustrating this article by Charlie Register, Jeremy Fleming and Rob Belknap.



Full Partner

As Furman's First Lady, Susan Shi has made lasting contributions that extend far beyond the university.

One thing Susan Thomson Shi learned pretty quickly upon becoming Furman's First Lady in 1994 was that she automatically had a platform from which to operate.

"Hopefully," says the 1971 Furman graduate, "I've earned it, and used it responsibly and effectively."

Perhaps platform isn't the right word in this case. For Susan Shi, it's been more of a bully pulpit, and education has been her primary cause.

With a doctorate in educational administration and years of experience as a teacher, curriculum coordinator and administrator, her background and prominence combined to make her a forceful advocate for public education (K-12) in Greenville and in South Carolina. She co-chaired a committee that designed a strategic plan for Greenville County schools and helped launch an extensive building campaign that has improved facilities throughout the county. Working through and with such local and regional groups as Success by Six, First Steps, United Way and others, she has been a leader in the ongoing drive to develop stronger early childhood programs in the state.

She expanded her knowledge of civic affairs through her work with such groups as the Community Planning Council and YWCA. In the process she became part of a network of individuals and agencies that shared similar hopes and dreams. Both formally and informally, she and her like-minded colleagues have worked to advance the causes they hold dear.

Which takes us to her current passion: The South Carolina Institute for Child Success, whose leadership planning team she chairs. Its mission: fostering collaborative public and private partnerships that will ensure the future success of all children. (Visit www.scics.org).

The institute has brought together representatives from a host of entities, among them the Greenville hospital and school systems, the Richard W. Riley Institute at Furman, the University of South Carolina and the state Department of Social Services. After years of planning, the leadership team is now looking for an executive director who will help shape the institute as a center "for the creation and demonstration of best-practice approaches to addressing the physical, emotional and developmental needs of the state's children."

Says Shi, quoting the SCICS literature, "Ninety percent of a child's brain develops in the first five years, but only 10 percent of the money we

invest in education affects that period. We need to focus more on our youngest children."

Regarding the Greenville dimension of her life, then, Shi says things won't change much after June 30. As for the "void" left by her departure from Furman, she's ready to fill it with family, friends, and projects ranging from catching up on photo albums to enjoying her grandchild (Lily, age 3) to compiling a cookbook for her children — Jessica Goll, a teacher at the Charles Townes Center for the Gifted at Greenville's Sterling School, and Jason, a musician with the group ASG (All Systems Go), who lives with his wife on the North Carolina coast.

Of her years at Furman, Shi says, "David and I shared goals and a love for the same place. That made it possible for me both to accept his being away so much on Furman's behalf and to work in partnership with him wherever appropriate. The community and the board of trustees accepted me as a full partner, and that meant a great deal."

She also agrees that she had excellent role models. Former First Ladies Bea Plyler, Martha Johns and, until her death, Elizabeth Blackwell all lived within a half mile of White Oaks, the Furman president's home.

"They've been my cheerleaders," she says. "It was a little daunting at first, because here were three women who had done this job with such great success. But they have been absolutely marvelous and provided much love and support."

Shi becomes especially effusive when discussing the people she's had the "unbelievable fortune to meet because of this job." She ticks off a quick list — Charles Townes, Sir John Templeton, Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Richard Riley — and says, "They're all as kind and normal as anyone else!" Then she quickly adds, "That's my favorite word people have used to describe me. They say, 'You're so normal.'"

Which is how she hopes and believes her successor, Michele Smolla, will approach the position. "My advice to Michele," Shi says, "is to be who you are. Don't try to fit a mold, and don't let the job change how you do what you do."

In other words, go ahead and wear the blue jeans to the grocery store. Do what's worked best for you all along.

It's a philosophy that has served Susan Shi — and Furman — superbly.

— JIM STEWART



The Long Road to

Boat people. HIV/AIDS. Hurricanes. Earthquakes.

Haiti has the unfortunate plight of appearing in the news only in connection with these kinds of bleak topics. Having recently lived in Haiti for seven months, I find it difficult to reconcile the images I see in the news with the images of Haiti I hold in my mind.

I do not wish to say that the poverty, disease and despair do not exist. They do. They are an inescapable part of life in Haiti. But they are just that — a part.

For the whole picture, you must see children walking to school arm in arm, wearing neatly pressed uniforms. You must taste the sweetness of a mango fresh from the branch. You must listen to a hundred voices raised in song beneath the brilliant stars of a Haitian night sky.

Only by seeing the whole picture can you understand the value of the unique culture that the Haitian people are now fighting to preserve.

The effects of the January earthquake in Haiti are staggering. First, there is the physical damage. Shortly after the event, my friend Vivian Tortora, who helps manage a guesthouse in Port-au-Prince, wrote, “I have no idea how this country is going to pick itself up from the rubble. The literal rubble. Everywhere. It is as if this place were bombed.”

Beyond the physical damage, the quake inflicted psychological trauma on millions of Haitians. Many who survived witnessed the mangling of human bodies, including those of their friends and family. They now live in constant fear of another earthquake and face the loss of their homes and livelihoods.

Vivian’s descriptions offer a glimpse into life in Port-au-Prince: “We are all sleeping outside due to many aftershocks, 54 of which were 5.0 or higher. . . . We are operating a field hospital in the adjacent soccer field as well as a tent city organized

by the neighborhood leaders. There are about 1,300 sleeping in the field and another field two houses away. Four surgeries were done on our kitchen table with minimum anesthesia, including an amputation.”

Finally, there is the damage to the collective Haitian spirit caused by the destruction of their capital city, which was home to about 25 percent of the nation’s population and served as its political and economic center. For comparison, the 15 most populated cities in the United States account for only about 10 percent of the population.

The collapsed National Palace, the ruined hospitals and the flattened schools are images that will not soon leave the minds of the Haitian people. Imagine the simultaneous destruction of New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston and Washington, D.C., and you might begin to grasp the shock of the earthquake to the Haitian people’s sense of national identity.

The pain of the event was particularly acute for the millions of Haitians who have left their country for such places as the Dominican Republic, the United States, France and Canada. Members of the Haitian diaspora were subjected to days or even weeks of anguish while waiting to hear from their loved ones.

One of my Haitian friends, Michelet Jean-Charles, is a student at Saint Mary’s University in Winona, Minn. As the days slipped by after the earthquake with no word from Michelet’s wife or 12-year-old son, I began to lose hope. I could not watch the news without picturing his wife, Mireille, beneath every pile of tumbled concrete, or his son, Mikeson, lying bloody and helpless in an overtaxed medical camp.

I can only imagine how Michelet must have felt, wondering if his efforts to obtain an advanced education would now be meaningless in the face of the death of his wife and son. Finally, at the end of an anguished week, he received a phone call from Mireille and joyfully learned that she and Mikeson had escaped without physical harm.

Recovery

By Elizabeth Cooke

Elizabeth Cooke was working in Haiti when the hurricanes of 2008 struck. Now, after yet another devastating national disaster, she offers insights into the resilience and collective spirit of the Haitian people.

Between July 2008 and July 2009 I spent seven months in the coastal Haitian city of Gonaïves, where I helped implement a reforestation and alternative fuels project with the support of a Compton Mentor Fellowship. As the only American living at a Haitian-founded mission, I developed close ties with my neighbors and co-workers.

These ties were strengthened by the communal experience of the 2008 hurricane season, which devastated Gonaïves with massive floods and mudslides. Forced to evacuate my house through rising floodwaters, I joined my neighbors in an exodus to higher ground and spent the next two months living in a house shared among several Haitian families.

In the wake of the hurricanes, I observed the range of emotions that disaster can elicit, from distress to despondency to humor. Young women embraced each other in the streets and sobbed over the uncertainty of survival. Friends shrugged their shoulders and told jokes, like good-natured Jobs facing yet another trial. Old men pushed wheelbarrows of soggy rice through the muddy floodwaters to feed their children and grandchildren. Mothers collected the far-too-abundant rainwater in basins to wash their families' clothes, making the best of bad circumstances.

Although the 2010 earthquake was much greater in scale than the 2008 hurricanes, I suspect the reaction of the people has been similar. Contrary to the footage shown on television, I am sure most people did not turn to violence but rather to their greatest resource — strong networks of family and friends — to survive.

The earthquake and its aftermath highlight many thorny issues, such as poverty, international aid and international adoption. For example, the contrast between the earthquake in Haiti, which



caused more than 200,000 deaths, and the Chilean earthquake six weeks later, which caused fewer than 1,000 deaths despite its greater magnitude, underscores the role that poverty plays in exacerbating the effects of natural disasters.

The best solutions to poverty are far from evident. Many policy experts debate whether the foreign debt incurred by poor nations is merely a form of economic slavery, whether aid creates a demeaning and counterproductive cycle of dependence, and whether aid leads to cultural hegemony (as in Haitian children wearing clothing splashed with the names of American brands and sports teams).

While large-scale aid decisions are often removed from the hands



of individuals, adoption cases usually involve personal stories and connections. The concerns surrounding international adoption gained the limelight when a group of Idaho missionaries attempted to illegally transfer 33 children across the border from Haiti to the Dominican Republic.

However, the issue also encompasses the stories of more thoughtful individuals. For example, shortly after the earthquake, a woman in my current home of Bloomington, Ind., came to me for advice on international adoption. The woman and her husband, who had sponsored the education of a child in Haiti for two years, had learned that the boy and his brother were pulled from the rubble with their dead mother six days after the earthquake.

The couple is now wracked with concern for the boys while questioning whether the children would be better served to remain in their home country or be adopted. The question involves not only the importance of maintaining a child's cultural identity but also the awareness that adopting one or two children will not address the deeper problems within the country.

Despite the complicated implications of the disaster, I have no doubt that the Haitian people are determined to move forward and are looking to the rest of the world not to lead them, but to partner with them.

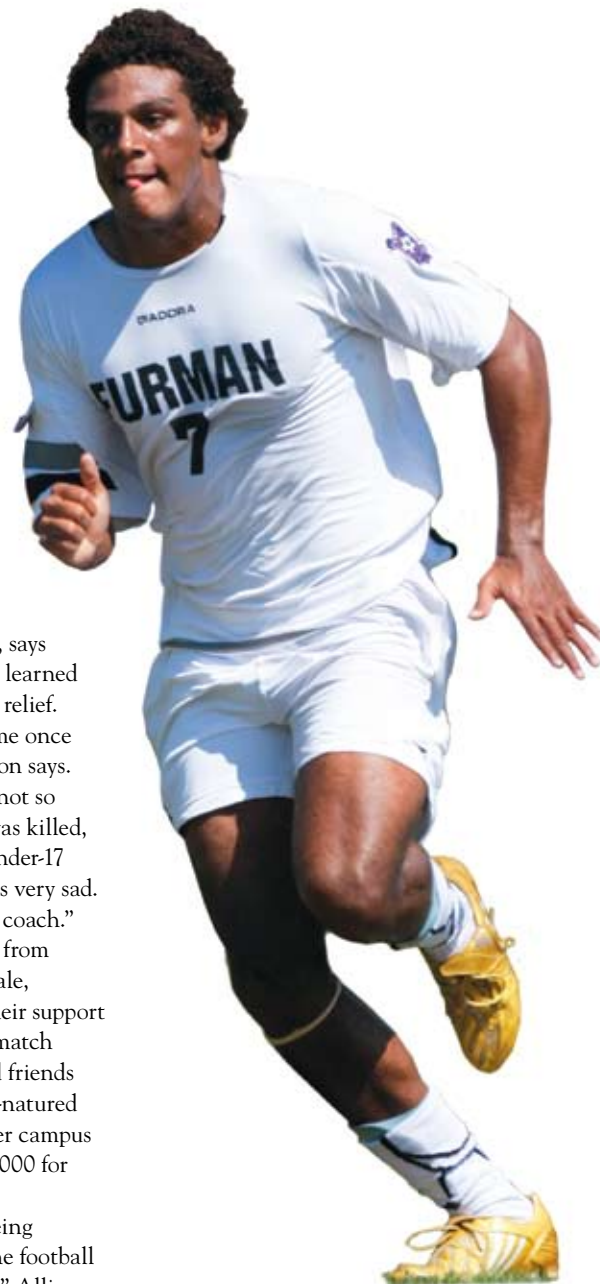
In a recent letter, one of my closest friends and mentors in Haiti, Pastor Michel Morisset, offered a compelling call for cooperation among the many non-governmental organizations in Haiti. He wrote, "Many good organizations start on a good foundation — interdenominational, nondenominational, interracial, cross-cultural — but then one drop of selfish interest or motivation drives us into a religion, and we start excluding."

Imagine my surprise to read these words, which sound like those of a religious skeptic instead of a passionate evangelical Haitian pastor. Yet on reflection, his words speak to the beauty of the Haitian spirit, which, like the Haitian Creole language, welcomes a diversity of ideas, customs and values.

The road to recovery in Haiti will be long, and the torturous road out of poverty even longer. However, when the images of toppled buildings, eroded mountain slopes and malnourished children seem too much to bear, I remember a Haitian proverb that celebrates persistence: "*Piti piti, zwazo fè nich.*" Little by little, the bird builds its nest. [F]

The author, a 2008 Furman graduate, is pursuing master's degrees in public affairs and environmental science at Indiana University. Visit her blog, www.imaginehaitian.org. Associated Press photos.

Furman family rallies around Vorbe, Haiti relief



Fabien Vorbe was settling back into a routine at Furman on the afternoon of Tuesday, January 12, when his homeland of Haiti was rocked by one of the deadliest earthquakes in recorded history. In a matter of minutes the capital of Port-au-Prince was nearly leveled, and in the weeks that followed the death count rose to more than 230,000.

Vorbe heard about the disaster quickly, but it took days to learn what had happened to his mother and other members of his family. The airports were closed, and there was no phone service. Learning, finally, that they had survived changed his perspective on the world forever.

"People can't take life for granted. Life is a gift, and you never know when it can be taken away from you," Vorbe says. "I'm sure there were people whose lives ended that night on a bitter note with their loved ones or families. It's a big lesson. Try to be in a good mood with everybody around you, and be thankful for what you have and what you get."

Vorbe, a sophomore forward on the soccer team, knows how lucky he was. He had returned to Furman from the holiday break less than 48 hours before the quake. But even though his family lost its home and possessions, their survival was all that mattered.

He finally saw the damage firsthand on a weeklong trip to Port-au-Prince and the surrounding area during spring break in early March. The visit proved sobering.

"It took me a few hours to actually believe what I was seeing. Did this really happen?" he says. "It was crazy. I knew it was going to be a big, devastating thing, but the way I saw it on TV I didn't think it was that bad. To see it in person . . . there were places where I grew up and used to pass by every day that don't exist anymore."

Doug Allison, men's soccer coach, says it seemed like an eternity before Vorbe learned that his family was OK. "It was a huge relief. He called me really late at night at home once he finally talked to [his mother]," Allison says.

But others Vorbe knew well were not so fortunate. "His national team coach was killed, and some of his teammates from his Under-17 World Cup team," says Allison. "That's very sad. He was very close to his national team coach."

Vorbe is the only Furman student from Haiti, and like the world on a larger scale, Allison and Furman quickly showed their support by arranging a 12-hour charity soccer match January 22. Students, faculty, staff and friends of the university took part in the good-natured competition. In conjunction with other campus projects, it helped raise more than \$15,000 for Haitian relief.

"To see the chemistry professor being tackled by the math professor, to see the football player tackle the golfer . . . it was great," Allison says. As he told *The Greenville News*, "Never has such bad soccer been played for such a good cause."

Vorbe was touched by the university's efforts. "That was very heart-warming, because when I was recruited by Coach Allison one of the things he emphasized was that we would be a family, and that's one of the reasons I chose Furman," he says. "That event was, I guess, a great opportunity to show it. It was like, yeah, this really is a family. I knew people were here supporting me and raised a good deal of money for Haiti, too. It was pretty amazing."

While Vorbe appreciates all that has been done for his country, he wants people to know that the needs are still great.

"It's a good feeling to see the support that

other countries are giving us, even in this world with wars going on, to still see that people care about other people and nations care about each other. It brings you back to Earth. Something good is still happening," he says.

"When it stops getting on the front page, people tend to forget.

"But Haiti is not close to being where it needs to be right now, and it needs way more help. We're getting a lot and we're thankful for that, but it can't stop."

— RON WAGNER

The author, a 1993 Furman graduate, is a freelance writer in Hendersonville, N.C. Photo courtesy Furman sports information.

Big ideas on a small scale

Even when Aaron Wheeler is approached with a seemingly outlandish research idea, the one word that isn't in the analytical chemist's vocabulary is "no." He might be skeptical, says Mais Jebrail, one of Wheeler's Ph.D. students at the University of Toronto, but he'll say, "Try it out and convince me."

Such openness to new ideas has allowed Wheeler to work on a range of real world problems and scientific questions. Last year he and his colleagues found a new way to measure hormone levels in blood and breast tissue. Because the technique requires a tiny fraction of the sample typically needed for these measurements, his work could eventually help doctors diagnose cancers and monitor treatments that avoid the pain and invasiveness of traditional biopsies.

Wheeler's laboratory focuses on microfluidics — a technique in which scientists design and build tiny chips, often made of networks of small tubes. As liquids flow through these tubes, researchers can separate and analyze the chemical contents of microscopic liquid droplets.

Wheeler wants to harness this knowledge in creative ways, both to speed medical research and to better understand the natural world. In addition to measuring cancer hormones, he and his colleagues have built microscopic tunnels for tiny worms (*C. elegans*) to see if the worms can learn — a miniature version of the classic psychology experiments in which rats make their way through mazes.

The 1997 Furman graduate's interest in the connection between basic scientific research and medical applications dates to his undergraduate days. Like many chemistry majors, he went back and forth between attending medical school and pursuing a Ph.D. But during his senior year, an analytical chemistry course with John Wheeler (no relation) helped him decide on his career path.

"Not only was [Aaron] a top-notch student," John says, "he tended to stick around after class and ask questions."

Professor Wheeler made a point of assigning his students outside reading about practical applications, particularly medical and environmental research. Says Aaron, "I was just blown away that there was this field in which you could focus on and be an expert in instrumentation, electronics, optics and computer programming, but work toward biological or life-science applications." He was hooked.

After graduation he moved on to a Ph.D. program at Stanford University and plunged into the emerging field of microfluidics, learning how to design chips and using them to analyze the chemical contents of a single cell. He rapidly became enamored with the clarity of designing a microfluidic chip.

"It is so visual — just a pen and a piece of paper are all that it takes" to illustrate a possible solution to a problem, Wheeler says. But the work can be challenging. Turning the vision into reality requires troubleshooting such

miniature plumbing problems as dust, bubbles and fluids flowing in unexpected ways.

"He brought this passion for trying to get something to work and the ability to persevere in the face of great difficulty," says Richard Zare, Wheeler's advisor at Stanford. "I could tell that he was going to become a great researcher."

In 2003 Wheeler moved to chemist Robin Garrell's laboratory at UCLA for further postdoctoral training. There he was able to collaborate closely with researchers in other disciplines, including mechanical engineer Chang-Jin Kim and biochemist Joseph Loo. When he was looking for teaching jobs, Wheeler picked the University of Toronto because its research environment would allow him to continue to work seamlessly with scientists in other fields.

In just five years, Wheeler's lab has become a melting pot of researchers from diverse locales — China, Brazil, Egypt and Serbia — who have broad scientific expertise in such areas as chemistry, materials science, engineering and medicine. Wheeler's Ph.D. student, Jebrail, describes himself as an "interdisciplinary gypsy."

Chance interactions with scientists from other disciplines and low barriers to collaboration have fueled many of Wheeler's projects. The study of worms in microfluidic mazes grew out of a conversation in an elevator with a biologist colleague, Peter Roy, who studies *C. elegans*, Wheeler says.

Through their work in microfluidics, Aaron Wheeler and his colleagues apply their research to real world problems.

Jianhua Qin, a visiting scientist from China, worked on the project, and since returning to the Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, where she is now a professor, Qin and her colleagues have continued to work with Wheeler. Their connection came about in part because of Wheeler's knowledge of language and culture. He is conversant in Mandarin, a skill he picked up through a study abroad term in China during his sophomore year at Furman.

The idea to measure breast cancer hormones also came from outside. Noha Mousa, a Ph.D. student in clinical medicine, was studying breast cancer treatments that block estrogen. Mousa learned about digital microfluidics through her husband, Mohamed Abdelgawad, who had completed his Ph.D. in Wheeler's group.

With digital microfluidics, researchers use tiny electrical pulses to sort and analyze droplets on the surface of a chip. Mousa was convinced that the technology might allow her to measure hormone levels in breast tissue less invasively than traditional biopsies.

In early 2008 she approached Wheeler with an illustration and a research plan, and began working in his lab full time. She collaborated with Jebrail to develop a microfluidic system that successfully extracted estrogen from breast tissue and blood samples.

Traditional measurements can be painful; biopsies can require a gram of tissue. This technique requires a sample just a microliter in size — a pinprick by comparison.

Wheeler emphasizes that many great ideas in science are the result of researchers with different perspectives coming together and overcoming communication barriers. “[Science] really is a social enterprise,” he says. “And that’s one of the parts of this job that I love.”

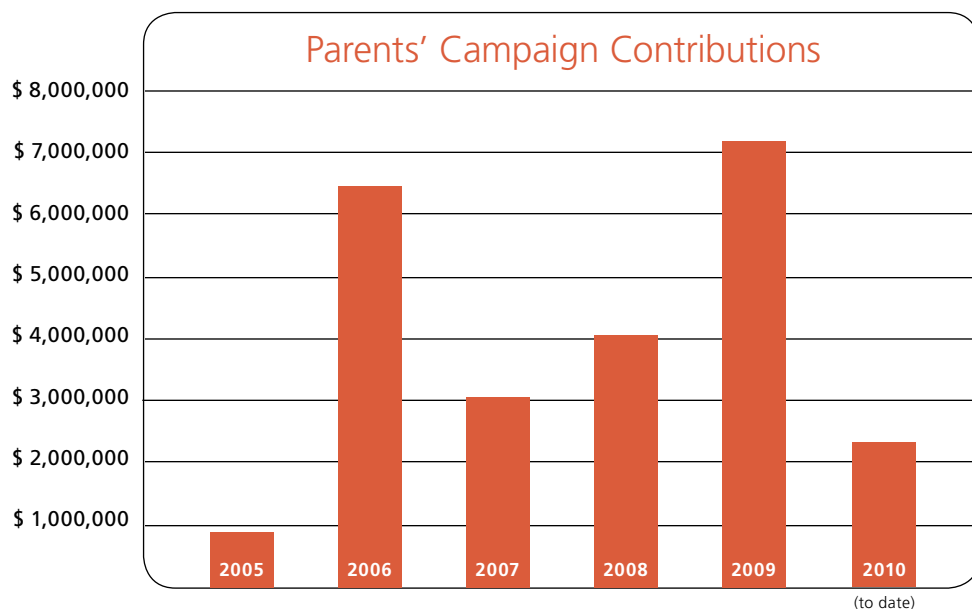
While Wheeler builds his reputation as an independent researcher, his influence is reaching back to the Furman classroom that once inspired him. John Wheeler continues to assign readings about the applications of analytical chemistry — including a recent paper by his former student, who says his broad general education at Furman was a critical tool in his growing scientific success.

Although technical training is important, “Being an academic scientist is not a matter of staying hunched over a bench in the dark by yourself,” Aaron says. You also have to communicate concepts to a broad range of people: “You need to be able to go out and convince people that your work is important.” |F|

Adapted from an article published in the February 2010 issue of The Scientist. The author, a freelance writer based in Brooklyn, N.Y., graduated from Furman in 1996 and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from Indiana University. Visit her blog, <http://webbofscience.wordpress.com>. Photo by Hill Peppard.



Because Furman Matters.



Parents bolster university on many levels

FURMAN PARENTS have a strong tradition of supporting the university through annual, capital and planned gifts. As the chart indicates, parents have been a critical component to the success of the \$400 million Because Furman Matters campaign, and their giving has held steady despite the recent economic downturn.

Under the leadership of the Parent Campaign Committee (PCC), the initial goal of the campaign's parent effort was to raise \$25 million in gifts and pledges by June of 2011. Because this target may soon be eclipsed, a new goal is being considered.

The PCC, chaired by John and Ellen Yates (parents of Paul '10), has been the driving force behind parent giving in recent years. The PCC meets throughout the year to offer ideas about the campaign's strategic objectives, which include strengthening study away programs, increasing endowments and resources for scholarships, funding internships and faculty research programs, and providing support for athletics, the performing arts, spiritual exploration and extracurricular activities.

Parents enrich Furman in many ways besides financial support. Among them:

■ **LEADERSHIP.** In addition to the PCC and the Parents Council, which represents parent concerns to the administration, parents provide direction and advice to Furman through service on the board of trustees, Advisory Council and Alumni Board.

■ **RECRUITING.** Furman parents often host summer send-offs for new students, and this spring they hosted events for accepted students in select cities throughout the country.

■ **OPPORTUNITIES.** Parents open doors for students by providing contacts and information that often lead to jobs or internships. One example: Jim and Cindy Mabry of Richmond, Va. (parents of Philip '11 and George '13), provided a summer internship with Jim's investment banking firm, plus housing for the intern.

Contact judy.wilson@furman.edu, 1-800-787-7534, to learn more about opportunities for Furman parents.

Borings honor family, friends through internship

DOTTIE AND KEN BORING of Dalton, Ga., have donated \$250,000 to Furman to establish an internship that honors both their daughter Laura, a member of Furman's Class of 2006, and their friends Lynn and Lynnie Tunnell, former co-chairs of the university's Parents Council.

The Boring-Tunnell Internship will support student interns in the construction field, with preference given to those who work at a firm that produces concrete, crushed stone or other quarry products.

A veteran of World War II, Ken Boring expanded a family quarry business, Dalton Rock Products, from a single plant to five plants in Georgia and Tennessee. He eventually went on to pursue careers in banking and real estate. Having worked with the Furman Parents Council while their daughter was enrolled, the Borings have remained strong supporters of the university through membership in the Richard Furman Society.

Laura Boring, who earned her Furman degree in business, is a portfolio assistant at Columbia Management on Madison Avenue in New York City. She was recently accepted to the MBA program at Vanderbilt University's Owen School of Management.

Lynn and Lynnie Tunnell, who also live in Dalton, were Parents Council co-chairs in the 1990s. They have two sons: Andrew Tunnell '91, now an attorney in Birmingham, Ala., and Benjamin Tunnell '96, who works with Shaw Contract Group in Tallahassee, Fla.

To learn more about supporting internships at Furman, contact susan.zeiger@furman.edu, (864) 294-3166.

Rusts' Furman connection runs deep

LISA LEE RUST '87 AND HER HUSBAND, KENNETH, are parents of two current Furman students, James '11 and Jordan '13. But their connection to the university extends even further.

Lisa's father, Robert Lee, is a member of the Class of 1958, and Kenneth and Lisa are current members of the Parents Council. Even though Kenneth is not an alumnus (he attended North Carolina State), he has many fond memories of Furman from the years he courted Lisa.

As Lisa points out, "Furman has always been a special part of our family. I can't say enough about my time at Furman, particularly the long-lasting friendships, the nurturing education, and the meaningful experiences such as being part of the Furman Singers."

As business owners based in Lumberton, N.C. — they operate seven McDonald's franchises — the Rusts understand the importance of planning carefully and anticipating future needs. With this in mind, they have decided to include the university in their estate plans.

In doing so, they hope to encourage other alumni, parents and friends to consider leaving a lasting legacy. Kenneth says, "It matters to us that our gifts will last beyond our lifetimes and we can leave a lasting impression



on a place of such significance. Lisa could not have attended Furman without the generosity of those who provided scholarships, so it gives us great joy to be able to help future students in a similar way."

Contact steve.perry@furman.edu, (864) 294-2458, to learn more about planned giving opportunities.

Special initiatives prompt strong financial support for campaign

THE \$400 MILLION BECAUSE FURMAN MATTERS CAMPAIGN has passed the \$300 million mark in gifts and pledges, and in recent months specific aspects of the campaign have done extremely well.

■ **FURMAN UNITED**, the two-year effort to raise funds for students experiencing economic hardship caused by the recession, continues to benefit from exceptional support. The program's goal is to secure \$400,000 for 2009-10 and an additional \$400,000 for 2010-11, all of which will go directly to financial aid. For 2009-10 the university has received \$375,000, which has provided aid to 107 students. For 2010-11 Furman has already received more than \$180,000. To learn more and see student profiles about the program's impact, visit www.myfurmangift.com.

■ **THE LILLY CENTER FOR VOCATIONAL REFLECTION** began nine years ago thanks to a major grant from the Lilly Foundation, Inc. The center provides resources for students, faculty and alumni to reflect upon vocational choices, encourages open dialogue among individuals of differing disciplines and beliefs, and promotes social action.

Furman is working to raise \$3 to \$5 million to permanently endow the Lilly Center. A task force headed by Peggy Ellison Good '67 and Leighan Rinker, former chair of the board of trustees, is leading this effort, with commitments to date totaling almost \$400,000. Leighan Rinker and her husband, David, have agreed to match, dollar for dollar, all new gifts to the center's endowment up to \$160,000. Contact susan.bradley@furman.edu, (864) 294-3693, to learn more.

■ **THE DRIVE TO ESTABLISH** the Bingham L. and Judy Vick Professorship in Music, which honors the retiring director of the Furman Singers and his wife, has surpassed \$600,000 toward its \$1 million goal. To further this effort, an anonymous donor has pledged to match all gifts of \$1,000 or more, up to a total of \$100,000, through June 30. Contact betsy.moseley@furman.edu, (864) 294-3491, to learn more.

Honorary degree presentations highlight Founders Convocation

AMONG THE FOUR individuals honored at the annual Founders Day Convocation March 23 were three Furman graduates.

Roger Stevenson '62, a distinguished scientist and educator and founding director of the Greenwood (S.C.) Genetic Center, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree for his pioneering work in the field of genetics.

While a research fellow at Johns Hopkins University, Stevenson and a colleague dreamed of establishing a facility that would be a research hub for intellectual disabilities, autism, birth defects and other disorders. They also sought to provide educational programs for medical professionals and students, as well as the community as a whole. Their dream became a reality in 1974, and since then the Greenwood Genetic Center has developed into an internationally renowned research institute offering testing, evaluation and hope to hundreds of thousands of families.

Stevenson is a recipient of Furman's Distinguished Alumni Award and served on the Science Advisory Committee for Furman's Charles H. Townes Center for Science. He is the author of several books about the genetic and environmental causes of disabilities. His long list of honors includes the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award, and election to the Greenwood County Hall of Fame.

Also receiving an honorary degree was Juan Johnson, who was named a Doctor of Humanities for his work in helping communities and organizations develop programs for diversity management. Formerly an executive with Coca-Cola, he is head of an Atlanta-based consulting company and helped to establish the Diversity Leadership Academy, which works with business, community and political leaders to build knowledge and leadership skills, forge lasting



2010 Founders honorees, from left: Roger Stevenson, Juan Johnson, Bobby Morrow, Carol Daniels. Photo by Jeremy Fleming.

relationships, advance important programs and nourish the potential of diverse communities.

Through the DLA he has partnered with Furman's Richard W. Riley Institute to design an innovative Diversity Leaders Initiative in South Carolina. Since its inception in 2003 the program has produced more than 600 graduates, and the numbers continue to grow.

Maurice Bernard "Bobby" Morrow, Jr. '51 received the Richard Furman Baptist Heritage Award, which recognizes a Furman graduate who "reflects Baptist ideals by thinking critically, living compassionately and making life-changing commitments."

Morrow enjoyed a 36-year career as a Southern Baptist minister, retiring in 1992 from Boulevard Baptist Church in Anderson, S.C. Known for his friendly, outgoing personality, compassionate nature and selfless commitment to others, he has been especially effective in encouraging young people to pursue higher education and has helped countless students secure scholarship assistance. He spent two years as alumni secretary at Furman in the early 1960s and is a former trustee of the university.

A past president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, he previously received an honorary degree and the Alumni Service Award from Furman.

Carol Daniels, coordinator of student life, became the first two-time recipient of the Chiles-Harrill Award, which is presented to a member of the faculty or staff chosen by the senior class as having the greatest influence on the class. Established by Frank Keener '64, it honors Marguerite Chiles, former vice president for student services, and Ernest Harrill, professor emeritus of political science and a former dean of students.

Daniels, who earned her Furman degree in 1982 while working at the university full time, is known for her nurturing skills, calm demeanor and devotion to students' best interests. She has been an advisor and friend to many through the years while working closely with sororities and fraternities, advising student publications and overseeing Orientation, among various other duties. She previously received the Chiles-Harrill Award in 2000.

Kazee appointed Evansville president

AFTER SERVING as chief academic officer at Furman for the last seven years, Thomas A. Kazee has been named president of Evansville University in Indiana, effective June 1. The announcement was made April 9.

Kazee came to Furman in 2003 as vice president for academic affairs and dean after four years as dean of the college at the University of the South. A former political science professor at Davidson College, he was Furman's acting president in 2006-07, when David Shi was on sabbatical. In 2008 he was appointed provost and executive vice president.

Among his many duties, he oversaw the development and implementation of Furman's new academic calendar and curriculum, directed the planning for the Charles H. Townes Center for Science, and supervised the departments of enrollment, student life, computing and information services, sustainability, grants administration and institutional research.

Kazee was one of three finalists to succeed Shi, who retires June 30, as Furman's president.

At the press conference announcing his appointment, Kazee said, "Today's daunting economic climate has created a critical moment for American higher education, one that creates a tremendous opportunity for institutions like the University of Evansville, because it has underscored the critical need for students to develop the lifelong skills and breadth of understanding best nurtured through an education combining the liberal arts with practical, preprofessional programs."

Evansville, a liberal arts institution affiliated with the United Methodist Church, has a full-time undergraduate enrollment of 2,476 students representing 44 states and 50 countries. Its average class size is 18 students, with a student-to-faculty ratio of 13:1.

Shi said, "Furman will miss Tom Kazee's leadership, wisdom, and experience, and I will personally miss his relentless energy and wise counsel. But he is ready for new challenges and responsibilities, and he and [his wife] Sharon will be a great team at the helm of the University of Evansville."

Sharon Kazee has been vice president for arts and academics and dean at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities.

Shi said that he and incoming president Rod Smolla will consult on how best to proceed given Kazee's departure.



Mentoring programs earn award for service learning

THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION

on Higher Education presented Furman its 2009-10 Commendation of Excellence for Service Learning Award for a program in which Furman students work at two local schools.

The university was recognized for "Advancing Science Education and Wellness in Urban Greenville Schools," which is funded in part by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Each week the HHMI Mentors Program sends students to Hughes Academy of Science and Technology and Fuller Normal Advanced Technology Charter School. At Hughes, a magnet middle school, science and math majors work with at-risk students.

At Fuller Normal, Furman students provide homework assistance and work with science camps held during the summer. They also provide tutoring and help sessions during the evening hours so parents of Fuller students can attend classes in exercise, nutrition and wellness.

The mentoring programs are directed by Furman's Office of Integrative Research in the Sciences, which supports multidisciplinary research initiatives for faculty and students, as well as science education outreach programs.

Hughes principal Patrick J. Mark wrote that, thanks to the work of the Furman group, "Our students are becoming more confident in their ability to achieve (in math and science). Many of our students have seen improvement in their test scores and in their overall subject area grades."

Brenda Humbert, principal at Fuller Normal, echoed Mark's comments. "Furman students are changing the lives of children at [our] school," she said, adding that the program provided "eager, positive and dependable role models for our young children."

Additions and recollections from our radio readers

THE ARTICLE ON RADIO at Furman (“Feeling All of 45, Going on 15”) in the winter issue of the magazine elicited several responses from past station workers whose comments and recollections may prove helpful in filling some major gaps in the station’s records.

Although the blank spaces made it difficult to nail down specific names and dates for the article, Gary James ’78, who is leading the effort to boost the station’s profile and compiling a list of its alumni, commended the results: “Given the near total absence of station records, I was pleasantly surprised at how much information was gathered and how well it matched the stories I have heard.”

Jim Bogle ’70, a veteran of the station’s early days who is now a senior assistant attorney general in South Carolina, offered a few remembrances.

“The original call sign was WFBA, for Furman Broadcasting Association,” he wrote. “When we opened the new studio opposite the post office in the student center, we changed to WFRN, the Furman Radio Network, letters that could be pronounced as ‘friend.’ We were always at 600 AM, until the station went FM.

“What really helped us find an audience in the 1960s,” he added, “was that the broadcast signal of the big rock station in Greenville went directional at sundown, away from the campus, and could not be picked up on campus at night. By the late 1960s we were selling commercials. Credit Deas ‘Richie’ Richardson [now deceased] for that. He could sell ice to Eskimos.”

Bogle also explained why WFBA’s inaugural song was “Satisfaction” by the Rolling Stones: “At that time the commercial rock stations in Greenville had somehow decided that the song was obscene and would not play it at all.”

Ah, Furman radio — the best alternative.

Kathryn Tison Petralia ’92, a businesswoman in Atlanta, was station manager for two years. Although pleased that Furman radio was

with unbelievably unreliable engineers and very supportive university administrators to identify the best way to facilitate the move. Our 1991-92 WPLS T-shirt even referenced the signal amplification.”

Gary James expressed disappointment that those he described as “instrumental” in converting the station from AM to FM were not mentioned. So he mentioned them:

Phil Reeves ’77, Beth Kelly Jones ’78, Dave Wernick ’79 and Joe Sparks ’81.

James also pointed out that “If all the unsung heroes who worked tirelessly over the last 45 years to keep radio on the air at Furman were mentioned, the article may have filled the entire issue.” He added, “One phenomenon alumni have noted is that, even though we come from different eras and technologies have changed, the more things have changed at WPLS, the more the challenges and rewards have remained the same. The ‘rising phoenix’ theme of the article captured this perfectly.”

According to James, the story generated interest from a number of radio alumni who were not previously on his contact list. He is

now considering writing “An Official, Unofficial History of Furman Radio.”

Jim Bogle and Kathryn Petralia would probably be good places to start. No doubt James would like to hear from others as well. Contact him at furmanradio@yahoo.com.

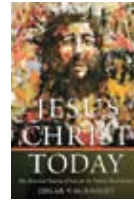
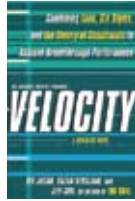
— JIM STEWART



featured in the magazine, she was puzzled by our timeline of the move of the station’s antenna to a light pole at Paladin Stadium, which improved the broadcast signal. We reported that the antenna was physically moved in the mid-1990s (station records indicated that the FCC granted the construction permit in September 1995).

Petralia, however, recalled working on the project in 1991, “spending countless hours

Photo by Charlie Register.



Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

ASHLEY DONIELLE MURRAY '04, *Fascia* (Green Lantern Press, 2009). On <http://ashleydoniellemurray.wordpress.com>, the author's blog, she describes her first collection of short fiction: "Fascia is defined as a sheet or band of fibrous connective tissue separating or binding together the muscles and organs of the body. When I discovered this term, I made the correlation between its meaning and the function of human relationships. The complexity existing between what intertwines and isolates, what separates or binds us together, is fascia. This fascia gives us the stories that cover the lives of past and future generations extending across all landscapes. This collection explores the interconnection of individual lives to the world around them." Murray majored in art at Furman and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from Columbia University. She lives in Queens, N.Y., and is at work on a novel.

MEGAN CARSON '00, *A Year of Blind Dates: A Single Girl's Search for 'The One'* (Regal, 2009). The book's cover states that the author "went on her first date when she was 27 years old. Her first real relationship lasted three months. And though Megan did not love Chris, she was heartbroken when they broke up. She grieved the loss of the relationship, but even more, she grieved the loss of who she was in the relationship. She had never met 'Megan the Girlfriend,' and once Megan did, she really liked her — and when she was gone, Megan wanted her back!" So she signed up with a dating service for a year. The result, as she told the *Orange County* (Calif.) *Register*: "Instead of meeting a husband, I got a book deal."

The *Register* describes her book as a "G-rated, breezy, often hilarious account of the good, the bad, and the ugly of that year." Carson earned her Furman degree in political science and communication studies and teaches world history at her high school alma mater in Mission Viejo, Calif. Visit <http://megancarson.com>.

SUZAN HOLOBAUGH BERGLAND '72, **JEFF COX** and **DEE JACOB**, *Velocity: Combining Lean, Six Sigma and the Theory of Constraints to Achieve Breakthrough Performance* (Free Press, 2009). The publisher says that many will be familiar with *The Goal*, "the landmark business novel that sets forth the essential principles of Eliyahu Goldratt's innovative methods of production. Now, from the AGI-Goldratt Institute and Jeff Cox, co-author of *The Goal*, comes *Velocity*, [which] reveals how to achieve outstanding bottom-line results by integrating the world's three most powerful continuous improvement disciplines: Lean, Six Sigma and Goldratt's Theory of Constraints." The book is designed to help any organization — "be it business, not-for-profit, manufacturing, or service based — shorten lead times, slash inventories, reduce production variability and increase sales." Co-author Bergland is president of the North American Group and a partner of the Goldratt Institute. She holds a master's degree in quality management from Loyola University in New Orleans.

PAULA POETTER WALLACE '70, *Perfect Porches: Designing Welcoming Spaces for Outdoor Living* (Clarkson Potter, 2010). The author, co-founder and president of Savannah (Ga.) College of Art and

Design, visits 40 homes throughout the United States to show how porches can be extensions and reflections of individual lifestyles. The publisher says, "A well-designed porch is like a welcoming committee that invites friends and family to share stories, catch up on neighborhood news, or quietly enjoy the breezes of a sultry summer evening. Porches bridge our public and private worlds, and convey the essence of one's home. In more than 250 stunning photographs, *Perfect Porches* illustrates how varied these iconic American spaces can be."

MARTHA MOORE AXMANN '59, *She Won the Race: Footprints of Cancer* (Pleasant Word-WinePress Publishing, 2009). Of this memoir, the publisher says, "Robyn Axmann's life ended too soon; she was only 26. However, her impact and influence continue. Robyn won her race, and her life of faith deeply influenced Martha Axmann, Robyn's mother, to continue running her own race as well — even when Martha lost her husband 11 years later. The lengthening shadow of Robyn's influence continues to inspire others. In *She Won the Race*, Martha Axmann encourages young people, parents and widows alike to live every day fully and to find in God the comfort that turns tragedy to triumph." Martha Axmann is a retired educator and recently received the Alumni Service Award from Anderson (S.C.) University, where she earned her associate's degree before enrolling at Furman. She serves on the Anderson board of trustees.

MARGARET MIMS JOHNSTON '55, *Vault* (Xulon Press, 2009). The *Athens* (Ga.) *Banner-Herald* describes this book as an exploration of "relationships and values in the competitive world of international athletics. A romance novel with a Christian foundation, the title literally refers to the challenges athletes face and, metaphorically, to making choices in life." The story centers on Krysti Byrd, a high school teacher and track and field coach who is invited to Australia to serve as an official at an international competition. Her decision affects her relationships with Kyle, her boyfriend, and Jake, a friend with whom she connects in Melbourne. The author is retired after 27 years on the faculty of the University of Georgia College of Journalism and Mass Communication. She is a certified official in the Georgia Association of U.S.A. Track and Field.

FROM FACULTY

EDGAR V. MCKNIGHT, *Jesus Christ Today: The Historical Shaping of Jesus for the Twenty-First Century* (Mercer University Press, 2010). The author is the William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Religion at Furman, where he taught for 35 years before retiring in 1998. The publisher describes the book as "a twenty-first century postmodern approach to interpreting Jesus Christ." It argues that "Jesus' identity isn't simply 'out there' to be explored scientifically," but is shaped historically in the experience of believers, both individually and in groups, with Him. McKnight encourages readers to look beyond the traditional and use their critical imagination as they explore the meaning of the Gospels and the life of Jesus.

Butler makes rapid ascent on road to cycling career

EARLY ON AS A COLLEGE STUDENT, Chris Butler found the ultimate stress reliever from the academic grind at Furman: climbing on his bike and sweating away his worries on the road up the back side of Paris Mountain.

But Butler is no ordinary cyclist. Those who know him won't be surprised to see all those trips up Paris Mountain pay off big time for the economics and accounting major — in another Paris.

That's the Paris where the Tour de France ends each year, with the world's toughest cyclists tooling down the Champs Élysées after three grueling weeks of racing.

Butler, who is from Hilton Head Island, S.C., is among the nation's top young cyclists. He turned pro this spring as he finished his work for his Furman degree. He has signed to ride for BMC Racing.

"They were looking to add more climbers," Butler says. "For me, the Tour de France is hopefully a few years in the future. I'm excited to get the chance to prove myself and prepare for the longer races."

BMC Racing happens to be the team of Butler's mentor, Greenville's George Hincapie. Hincapie, the reigning national road race champion, five-time Olympian and 14-time competitor in the Tour de France, calls Butler "a natural."

Butler got to know Hincapie as the Furman student's training rides got longer and his range lengthened, with five and six hours in the saddle on mountain climbs up Caesars Head and deep into the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Before long, Hincapie was inviting Butler to accompany him on training rides.

Butler joined a local development team sponsored by Hincapie Sportswear and snagged a spot as a U-23 (under age 23) developmental rider with BMC Racing. In February he spent two weeks in California training with the BMC

pros, including current world champion Cadel Evans of Australia. By May he had been offered a pro contract with BMC.

In a recent interview with Hincapie, Neil Browne of on-line cycling magazine *VeloNation* asked about Butler, who was "riding like a man possessed at training camp."

Hincapie said, "We knew right away that he could go uphill really well. I trained a lot with him this winter, and he has progressed tremendously. He has a tremendous work ethic, and he never backed down on training. As far as being a climber, he's a natural."

Butler also realized at the BMC camp that he could get used to the world-class treatment lavished on the pros, from the best bikes and mechanics to incredible meals and deep tissue massages after long days of training.

"It was definitely the best experience I've ever had on a bike and personally some of the most fun I've had in my life, being around superstars of cycling," he says.

It's been a dream ride for Butler, who didn't start racing until his freshman year of college — a late start for a cyclist. He ran cross country in junior high but stress fractures drove him to take up cycling as he tried cross training.

"I got a great scholarship to Furman, and I knew Greenville's reputation for cycling. Then with the cycling club team at Furman, everything fell into place. If I'd chosen any other school, maybe I wouldn't be as serious about cycling," he says.

"It's my greatest disadvantage, but it's also my biggest advantage. If I'm already neck-and-neck with these guys after only three or four years, I've improved rapidly. It's probably the thing that impresses people the most about me. I've gotten to a high level pretty quick."

He helped Furman's cycling team bring home national time-trial titles in the USA Cycling Collegiate Championships in 2008



CASEY B. GIBSON

Chris Butler celebrates winning the 2008 Collegiate Division 2 individual road race.

and 2009 and won an individual road race title in 2008.

This spring, Butler planned to race in Italy before returning to Furman for final exams. Depending on his pro team schedule, he also hoped to compete in the collegiate nationals in May and to return to Greenville in September for the USA Cycling Pro Championships.

For serious Greenville area cyclists, the benchmark is how fast they can climb Paris Mountain. Butler's done it in eight minutes, 57 seconds.

"I'd heard all the top pros could do under nine minutes and that George's time was 8:45 or maybe a little faster," he says.

Butler doesn't take an iPod on his training rides with Hincapie because he doesn't want to miss what the veteran is teaching him. "It's probably the best advice I can get," he says.

As for his solo training rides, no iPod is needed. "I'm pretty motivated," Butler says. "I can go out by myself for five hours in the mountains. It's kind of a Zen-like experience, a spiritual experience, a cleansing. It's just you and the pain of the bike. I enjoy it."

— ANN GREEN

The author, a 1975 graduate, is a freelance writer in Greenville.

Barry funds scholarships to honor Furman friends

TWENTY YEARS AGO, a Nike shoe commercial built around the words “Bo Knows” featured Bo Jackson, the football/baseball standout and Heisman Trophy winner from Auburn University.

Furman’s version of Bo didn’t come close to winning college football’s top individual honor, but he was a football/baseball player who graduated in 1954 with something as priceless as a Heisman.

Furman’s Bo knows friendship.

“Bo” is Ret. Army Col. F. Pelzer Barry, whose generosity toward alma mater has resulted in football and baseball scholarships, two of which honor friends from his college days. Barry is from Summerville, S.C., and is a descendant of two distinguished South Carolina families. He and his family were known as “the Barry Boys” for their prowess as state skeet champions.

He attended Furman on a football scholarship and after graduation entered the military. A pilot of fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, he spent 10 years on active duty and 15 in the reserves. Afterward he went into real estate and real estate development.

He did well in business and decided to share



some of his good fortune with Furman. The university has established the Bo and Mickey Barry Football Scholarship and soon will set up the Bo and Mickey Barry Baseball Scholarship, named for the benefactor and his wife.

Barry also stipulated that Furman use some of his gifts to create baseball scholarships honoring two college friends and teammates, Lucius Weeks ’54 and Russ Sutton ’54.

Ken Pettus, director of athletic development, says of Barry, “He’s very generous. He loves Furman dearly and attributes his success to the lessons he learned while playing sports at Furman and to lifelong friends like Lucius Weeks and Russ Sutton.”

Of Barry’s generosity, Pettus says, “[Men’s tennis coach] Paul Scarpa has a scholarship set up by many kids he coached. The parents of [women’s tennis coach] Debbie Southern honored her with a scholarship. I’d guess 30 percent of our endowed scholarships honor other people. But as far as teammates go, that’s pretty rare.”

Barry, who lives in a retirement community in Summerville, says, “I’m just glad I could help. Furman gave me a four-year football scholarship. I appreciated it at the time. I don’t know if I would have gone to college or not. I felt it was time to pay back a little bit.”

As for honoring his college friends, he says, “Russ Sutton was my roommate. He lives in Greenville. I talk to him on the phone but haven’t seen him in a good bit. Lucius Weeks was a [KA] fraternity brother of mine.”

Barry, who is recovering from a stroke, enjoyed a recent visit from the Furman baseball team, which stopped by to see him on a trip to play Charleston Southern. “They are fine young men,” he says.

— ANN GREEN

To learn more about supporting athletic scholarships, contact ken.pettus@furman.edu.

Furman football mourns loss of Spear Sedgley

SPEAR SEDGLEY, Furman’s highly respected football equipment manager for two decades, died April 1 following a yearlong battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. He was 65.

“We’ve lost a fine man and loyal, dedicated member of the Furman football family,” said Paladin football coach Bobby Lamb. “Spear was loved and respected by every player who put on the Furman uniform over the past 20 years and by everyone who had the pleasure to know

him and work with him. He faced his final battle with great courage and dignity, reminding us all of the true blessing of each day we are given.”

Sedgley was born in Portland, Maine, and after high school entered the U.S. Marine Corps, serving in Vietnam for four years. He joined the Furman staff in 1988 as part of the university’s film crew before taking over as football equipment manager in 1990. He remained in that job until retiring in August 2009.

The football team honored him with a

plaque and a helmet decal bearing his name during the 2009 season finale against Wofford.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl, of 205 Old Saluda Dam Rd., Greenville 29611; and by three daughters, several grandchildren, two sisters and a brother.

The Paladin Club has established a fund in Sedgley’s honor to benefit current and future volunteer football equipment managers. To learn more, contact ken.pettus@furman.edu.



Furman ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI BENEFITS: A REMINDER OF WHAT FURMAN OFFERS YOU

FOR SOME REASON I have the cheer “It’s great to be a Furman Paladin!” playing over and over in my head.

Maybe it’s because we’ve just welcomed the Class of 2010 into the Alumni Association. We’re delighted to have yet another outstanding group of young people as part of our alumni base.



Or maybe it’s because we’ve experienced a wave of nostalgia over the last few months in anticipation of the June 30 retirement of David E. Shi ’73 and his wife, Susan Thomson Shi ’71, after 16 years as Furman’s outstanding First Couple. This spring we held several events to give alumni, parents and friends in different areas of the country a chance to express their appreciation to the Shis for their leadership and service to alma mater.

Even though we are sad to see Susan and David go, there is an air of expectancy on campus as we await the arrival of Rod and Michele Smolla as Furman’s next leaders. Although change can be unsettling, in this case the campus mood is one of eager anticipation as Furman prepares to launch a new era.

AS FURMAN ALUMNI, we need to remember that we are part of an amazing institution. We stand on the shoulders of giants who came before us, and each year we send new giants out into the world to do great things.

We also should remember that Furman doesn’t forget its alumni once they receive their diplomas.

The tangible and ongoing benefits the university provides for alumni include:

- Homecoming every year, with organized class reunions every five years.
- A free lifetime subscription to *Furman* magazine.
- A lifetime e-mail forward account with yourname@alumni.furman.edu, available through the Alumni Association at <http://alumni.furman.edu>.
- Alumni events on campus and in your part of the world through Furman Clubs or other special offerings. As an example, we will be bringing President Smolla to select areas beginning this summer. If we make it to your neck of the woods, please plan to join us. We want him to get to know our amazing Furman family, and vice versa.
- Free access to the Office of Career Services, headed by John Barker. The office has a wide array of resources from which you may draw, and you can request lists of alumni, parents and friends of the university in hundreds of career fields.
- An outstanding internship program under the direction of Susan Zeiger. If you’re looking for an intern, Furman students are eager and willing to acquire firsthand job experience.
- Bookstore discounts. Alumni who register for this new program will receive a 15 percent discount on apparel purchases, as well as periodic discounts and promotions not available to the general public. To register, call the University Store at (864) 294-2164.
- Golf course benefits. Through December 31, 2010, alumni who are verified through the university may receive a Furman Golf Club metal bag tag (one

time only) as well as a sleeve of Titleist Pro V1 balls (good anytime through the end of the year). All you have to do is start before 3 p.m. and pay the regular greens fee. For \$500, alumni may also acquire a pass that allows them to play at Furman at faculty/staff rates for five years from the date of purchase. Call the Furman Golf Club, (864) 294-9090, to learn more.

Furman wants to keep you informed of the many exciting university activities in which you can be involved. But we need your help to do so. If you haven’t already, please send your up-to-date e-mail address, phone number and employment information to alumni@furman.edu.

IT’S NEVER TOO EARLY to make plans for Homecoming. This year’s festivities are set for October 22–24, with Southern Conference rival Tennessee-Chattanooga as the football team’s opponent. We will hold special reunions for classes ending in 0 and 5 and celebrate the 50th reunion of the Class of 1960!

Homecoming will be even more of a must-attend event because it will feature the inauguration of Rod Smolla as Furman’s 11th president. As of this writing, the inauguration is scheduled for Friday, October 22, at 10 a.m. in Timmons Arena.

More details will follow this summer, either through the mail or the Alumni Association Web page. It should be another great fall weekend at Furman and in Greenville, so make plans to attend!

— **TOM TRIPLITT ’76**
Director, Alumni Association

CLASS NOTES, SPRING 2010

31

Surrounded by family and friends, **Irene Dill Loftis** celebrated her 100th birthday in December at National HealthCare in Clinton, S.C., where she lives. She and her daughter, **Ann Loftis Hall** '61 (M.A. '92), completed requirements for graduation from Furman the same year; Irene had entered Greenville Woman's College in the 1920s, left after three years, then returned to finish her final year with her daughter and march with her at Commencement. She went on to a long career as a librarian and teacher in Greenville County.

41

Earl Rice has retired after practicing law in Anderson, S.C., for nearly 70 years. After learning to fly airplanes while a student at Furman, he volunteered for the U.S. Army Air Corps and for five years trained American, Austrian and British pilots. He then returned to Anderson and joined his father's law practice. He also served as a judge for 14 years.

48

Frances Jones Rish, a retired teacher living in Greenville, has written 19 books, three of which — *Remembrances*, *Thorns* (a story about Jesus, illustrated by Janice Tyson) and *The Journey* (a trip through the 50 states, illustrated by Carolyn Somers) are in the Greenville County Library. She has published four books of short stories and poetry based on Biblical personalities, and her *Meet the First Ladies*, illustrated with pictures from her doll collection, includes a letter from Laura Bush. Frances volunteers as a storyteller in local schools and frequently speaks to church groups and at nursing centers.

53

The Frank H. Stelling and **C. Dayton Riddle** Orthopaedic Education and Research Laboratory Endowment has been established to support a research lab in the Clemson University Biomedical and Bioengineering Translational Research Facility, which is part of the Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center. Dayton, the first honor graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina in 1957, was in private practice at Greenville's Piedmont Orthopaedic Clinic from 1964 to 1988. In 1979 he was named academic chair of the orthopaedic surgery department in the Greenville Hospital System. He is a past president of the South Carolina Orthopaedic Association and since 2001 has served as chairman emeritus of the University Medical Center. Frank Stelling was chief surgeon at Shriners Hospital in Greenville for 29 years.

68

Bob Sapp, longtime football coach in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County (N.C.) Schools and later director of athletics for the school system, has been inducted into the district's High School Sports Hall of Fame. During 16 seasons as a coach in the county, including 12 at Mount Tabor High, he compiled a record of 147-52-1 and won 11 conference titles. In 2001 he was the North Carolina Prep Football 4A Coach of the Year.

72

George and Elisabeth **Faile** have returned to the States for their final furlough before retirement from the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention after 22 years in Ghana, West Africa, where they worked at the Baptist Medical Centre. They plan to settle in the north Georgia area.

75

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

After working for 25 years in casino marketing, **Stephanie Pringhipakis** of Aurora, Ill., switched careers six years ago and now works as a healthcare interpreter and translator in an early intervention program for children up to age 3. She interprets for the child, the therapist, the parent and the medical provider.

76

After four years at the Union County (S.C.) Carnegie Library, **Nancy Rosenwald** has become information strategies director at the South Carolina State Library in Columbia. Under her direction the Union library was named the 2009 Best Small Library in America by the American Library Association. In her new position she is overseeing a \$140,000 Timken Foundation grant to the Union library.

77

Thomas Reynolds, managing partner of Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, in Birmingham, Ala., has been elected to a full term on the board of the Birmingham Business Alliance for 2010. He has concentrated in bankruptcy, reorganization and creditors' rights for more than 25 years and maintained an active practice in estate and probate law. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law* and in *Alabama Super Lawyers*.

Stacy Sauls, Episcopal bishop of Lexington, Ky., has been awarded an LL.M. degree in canon law with distinction from Cardiff University in Wales. His dissertation was on the Anglican Covenant. Stacy has chaired the House of Bishops Task Force on property disputes and is on the Presiding Bishop's Advisory Committee on litigation.

81

Christyn Scott, an employee of H&R Block in Greenville, passed the IRS Special Enrollment Exam and met the qualifications to become an enrolled agent.

82

Melinda Long's 2003 children's book *How I Became a Pirate* is now a stage play and was produced by the South Carolina Children's Theatre in February. She lives in Greenville.

83

James Pasquarette, a deputy commander for support for the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colo., has been promoted to brigadier general. The 4th Infantry includes four brigades of 3,500 to 4,000 soldiers each. He has also served as executive officer to the Army Chief of Staff and as commander of the 4th Infantry's 1st Brigade.

84

Scott Lenning of Birmingham., Ala., senior director of evangelism and conferences for the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association, is co-director for Mission Africa in Fellowship with the Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelism, to be held in South Africa in October. Visit www.MissionAfrica2010.com.

86

Edward Earl joined Microsoft in Bellevue, Wash., in January as a software design engineer. He previously worked as a consultant for 4ward Sciences, Inc., for two years.

Melanie Helling recently received National Board Certification as an early adolescence science specialist. She lives in Greer, S.C., and teaches at Bell's Crossing Elementary School.

2009-10 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Clare Folio Morris '83, president; J. Chris Brown '89, president-elect; Harriet Arnold Wilburn '74, past president; Rebecca Ann Armacost '89; Lynn Neely Bailey '78; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. '75; Frank W. Blackwell '90; John M. Block '63; Mary Lou Walch Cagle '69; Bobby E. Church '78; Paul D. Goebel '63; Michael L. Guynn '91; Shannon Scruby Henderson '75; L. Yates Johnson, Jr. '59; Gwinn Earle Kneeland '89; J. Cordell Maddox '54; James N. Martin '79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. '79; Andrew C. Medlyn '97; Matthew A. Miller '99; Joseph C. Moon, Jr. '76; William P. Morrow, Jr. '54; Emmett L. Patrick '56; Scott W. Raeber '92; Gordon D. Seay '61; Ellison L. Smith '89; Leslie L. Smith '91; Cynthia Black Sparks '80; Heyward M. Sullivan '59; William N. Turrentine '64; Connie Gartrell Williams '74.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: David Shi '73, president; Michael Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, director of Alumni Association; Jane Dungan, associate director of Alumni Association; Tina Hayes Ballew '78, associate director of Alumni Association; Cal Hurst '04, president, Young Alumni Council; Andrew Yowler '10, president, Student Alumni Council; Ben Able '10, president, Association of Furman Students; Rick Harris '10, president, Senior Class.

89

BIRTH: **Matthew** '91 and **Gwinn Earle Kneeland**, a daughter, Emilyyn Prior Kneeland, October 30. They live in Simpsonville, S.C.

90

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Clay Clifton recently joined the staff of San Diego (Calif.) Coastkeeper, the city's largest professional environmental organization, as watershed monitoring program manager. He previously was director of the Ocean Recreational Water Program for the County of San Diego's Department of Environmental Health.

Charles Watson, formerly an executive with Wachovia Securities, has joined the Financial Sponsors Group of William Blair and Co., a global investment firm. He is based in Chicago and manages the firm's client relationships primarily in the Southeast and mid-Atlantic.

91

Kristi York Wooten, whose article "When the Wall Came Tumbling Down" appeared in the Fall 2009 issue of *Furman* magazine, was co-writer and music director of "Half the Sky LIVE" February 11 in New York City. The program, based on the best-selling book by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, focused on the need to help women in developing countries overcome oppression and become forces for economic change. It featured musical performances, a short film co-directed by actress Marisa Tomei, and a celebrity discussion panel, and was taped and broadcast to movie theaters across North America March 4 in conjunction with International Women's Day. "Half the Sky LIVE" was presented by CARE, the international non-profit that fights global poverty, with a special focus on women. Learn more at www.halftheskylive.com or www.care.com.

BIRTHS: **Michael** and **Julia Bellon**, a son, Matthew Robert, January 13, 2009, Columbia, S.C. Michael is the music teacher at Sandel Elementary School and Julia is associate registrar at the University of South Carolina.

Matt and **Ellen Huntley Dubé**, a son, Andrew William, November 24, Gainesville, Fla.

93

Adam Cain of Sharpsburg, Ga., was ordained to the gospel ministry at East Newnan Baptist Church in January. He is the new student minister at Luthersville Baptist Church. In addition to his ministry role, he has a full-time job at SMC in Peachtree City as database administrator.

Elizabeth Watkins McLemore, currently enrolled in a pre-nursing program at Tidewater Community College in Portsmouth, Va., has accepted an adjunct position as a pastoral counselor at Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services in Norfolk. She has been pastor of churches in the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church for the past 10 years and is now on a leave of absence.

94

Mark and **Austin Shelley** live in Princeton, N.J., where he is teaching U.S. history at Princeton High School and she is enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Princeton Theological Seminary.

95

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Mary-Mitchell Campbell, recipient of Furman's 2007 Outstanding Young Alumni Award, is music director for the Broadway musical *The Addams Family*, which opened this spring.

MARRIAGE: **Michael Fontaine** and **Lara Sullivan**, December 5. They live in New York City, where Lara is an associate principal at McKinsey & Company, a management consulting firm, and Michael

is a vice president for institutional accounts in the securities unit of Deutsche Bank.

BIRTHS: **David** and **Tiffany Lanning**, a daughter, Rose Lee Lanning, November 5, Simpsonville, S.C. (This corrects an item from the winter issue.)

Travis and **Crystal Miller**, a daughter, Ava Danielle, September 10. Travis is the basketball coach at Blacksburg (S.C.) High School.

Langley and **Diane Whitehead**

Respass, a daughter, Virginia May, May 7, 2009. They live in Atlanta.

96

Edith Johnson Overall recently become organist/music associate at Church Street United Methodist Church in Knoxville, Tenn.

Brian Sheridan earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Penn State University and is an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice.

Paul Smith has joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta as a sector manager in the Office of Sustainability. He is responsible for helping to reduce the carbon footprint of the CDC. He is studying for a master's degree in health administration at Georgia State University.

MARRIAGE: **Amy Coley** and **Richard Chambers**, February 27. Amy works with a human resources consulting firm in Atlanta.

BIRTH: **James** '98 and **Susan Falzone Kraus**, a daughter, Sara Renée, October 27. They live in Modesto, Calif.

97

Robert Tims, Jr., earned his Doctor of Education degree in leadership from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

MARRIAGE: **Brad Harmon** and **Catherine Heath**, May 30, 2009. Brad is associate director of residence life at Furman, where Catherine is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology.



JOSH HARTWELL THINKS a chemistry degree from Furman has a lot to do with his current position on the cutting edge of the cell phone gaming industry.

No, really.

"I read somewhere that chemistry is one of the most popular degrees of Fortune 500 company CEOs," Hartwell, founder and CEO of GOSUB 60, says from his office in Santa Monica, Calif. "Not that my company is anywhere close to being a Fortune 500 company, but I think generally I had great professors, and I think a major like chemistry teaches you a mode of thinking and teaches you to come at things from multiple angles."

For instance, what to do in Los Angeles when your music career seems to come to a dead end? That's the predicament Hartwell faced not long after graduating from Furman in 1999, when his bluesy, classic-rock-based band dissolved.

His chemistry degree may not have been the reason Hartwell was hired by a software company, but brains and education opened the door for his analytical abilities to take over. Testing products turned into producing games at a second company, and it wasn't

GAME BOY: HARTWELL'S COMPANY FINDS CELL PHONE NICHE

long before Hartwell began working on what turned out to be the biggest break of his career.

"JAMDAT Mobile approached my old company about making a bowling game," he says. "We reluctantly said yes, because we were more focused on console systems like PlayStation and GameCube."

But JAMDAT Bowling turned into a phenomenon that changed phone gaming forever. For three years it was North America's most popular game. According to Hartwell, at one point it drove a third of JAMDAT's sales.

With its success, Hartwell saw an opportunity.

"We were kind of dialing back down to this little tiny processor, this tiny screen size, black and white as opposed to millions of colors, so we really had to go for the essence and purity of the product," Hartwell says of the work behind JAMDAT Bowling. "And it made everyone think differently about what makes a game. It got me to see the potential for games in mobile devices and that they would one day be huge."

Hartwell thought he could fill a niche by creating the best products possible for phones only. At the time — eight and a half years ago — this was borderline crazy talk. His bosses did not share his enthusiasm, which eventually led to a parting of the ways.

With the freedom to follow his vision, Hartwell persuaded Paul Bolten, lead programmer of JAMDAT Bowling, to join him in forming GOSUB 60. They set their sights on creating their own signature game and selling it themselves.

In retrospect, developing a product wasn't as difficult as taking control of its distribution. With established companies in place, carriers weren't eager to change and deal directly with a little guy.

"Being a pure development shop, I always felt like we were looking for a job,"

Hartwell says. "We would try to convince big publishers to do a big deal with us. It felt like a non-stop interview, which I didn't feel was the ideal way to exist in a company."

Hartwell's ace in the hole was his wife, Kellie, a University of Washington graduate he met at his first software job, where she was head of North American sales. Her contacts and skills helped open doors.

Hartwell knew, however, that everything depended on coming up with a good game. A deal with JAMDAT to develop a golf game provided the cash for what turned out to be GOSUB 60's big break: Solitaire Deluxe.

That was 2003. Today GOSUB 60 (www.gosub60.com) is the only independent top-10 wireless game publisher in the United States, with 32 employees and 14 games.

To stay on the cutting edge, GOSUB is working to develop games that can be played both on mobile devices and on sites like Facebook. The idea is for users to be able to start a game on a phone and finish later on a computer.

"One of the big goals for the future is unifying that experience across platforms," he says.

It's hard to imagine that things could get better for Hartwell. He and Kellie live in Santa Monica with their sons, Venice, Kendrick and Getty, and he sees only bigger things ahead for GOSUB 60.

"We've had tough times and we've had big times," he says. "My job is managing the company now, making sure we're addressing new markets and that this company is still moving as fast as it did when it was just three people. This industry hasn't slowed down, so we've got to constantly be changing."

— RON WAGNER

The author, a 1993 Furman graduate, is a freelance writer in Hendersonville, N.C. Photo courtesy Coral von Zumwalt.

BIRTHS: Brent and **Lindi Eubanks Metcalf**, twins, a daughter, Marlee Layne Metcalf, and a son, William Eubanks Metcalf, November 15. They live in Moore, S.C.

Doug and **Lindsay MacArthur Porter**, a daughter, Sophie Makena Porter, November 9. Lindsay is the foster care coordinator for the Athens (Ga.) Area Humane Society. Doug is a computer programmer for IISC and coaches the University of Georgia’s men’s rugby team.

98

Chris Riddle, a lawyer with the Florence, S.C., office of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., was elected a company shareholder effective January 1. His focus is on business formation, corporate transactions and commercial real estate law, representing clients in real estate acquisitions and development activities throughout the Carolinas. He serves on the board of the Greater Florence Habitat for Humanity.

BIRTHS: Andrew and **Audrey Dodson Breen**, a son, Henry David, December 15, Charlottesville, Va.

David and Susan **Burns**, a son, Andrew Robert, November 9. They live in Greenwich, Conn. David was recently hired by Sage Collective as an account supervisor to work on the Mercedes-Benz sports sponsorships.

Kevin ‘99 and **MaryAnn Whalen Campion**, a son, Mason Rossi Campion, November 9, Boston, Mass. A licensed genetic counselor, MaryAnn is director of the master’s program in genetic counseling at Boston University School of Medicine.

James and **Heather Thornton McRae**, a son, John Gabriel, March 8, 2009, Columbia, Mo.

Tim and **Courtney Dodson Schar**, a daughter, Lilah Whitney, January 15. They live in San Francisco.

99

Justin “Woody” O’Dell of Marietta, Ga., received the Robert Benham Community Service Award from the Georgia State Bar. A partner with the law firm of Cauthorn, Nohr & O’Dell, he was recently named one of Cobb County’s “Top 20 Under 40” by *Cobb Life* magazine.

Ronnie Pascale has signed for his 11th season as the goalkeeper with the Richmond (Va.) Kickers professional soccer team. He returns to captain the 2010 squad after leading the Kickers to their second United Soccer League Second Division championship in four years. He is a three-time USL Second Division Goalkeeper of the Year.

Giles Schanen has been elected to partnership in the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP. He practices in the firm’s Greenville office.

MARRIAGES: **Camille Bennett** and Floyd Hollis Wilson III, May 2, 2009. They live in Los Angeles, where they are professional actors.

Jill Smith and Jason Przybyla, September 19. They live in Atlanta.

BIRTHS: **John** and Elaine **Ertter**, a daughter, Julia Cerejo, February 3. John is an investment counselor with Fisher Investments. They live in Camas, Wash.

Chris and **Lindsay Powell Ford**, a son, Cooper Madison, August 4, Charlottesville, Va.

Howie and **Alice Gregory Hartnett**, a daughter, Reagan Marie, August 27, Charlotte, N.C.

Stowe and Carrie **Query**, a son, Davis Charles, November 30, Charlotte, N.C.

Matthew and Sandra **Miller**, a daughter, Shafer Amelia, February 2. They live in Travelers Rest, S.C.

Tyler and **Michelle Bellon Smyth**, a son, Samuel Theodore, December 7. They live in Charleston, S.C.

FURMAN GRAD NAMED McDANIEL PRESIDENT

ROGER N. CASEY, a 1983 Furman graduate who has been chief academic and student affairs administrator at Rollins College in Florida since 2006, will become the ninth president of McDaniel College in July.



McDaniel, formerly known as Western Maryland College, is a 142-year-old liberal arts institution located in Westminster. Casey will succeed the retiring Joan Develin Coley.

At Rollins, Casey has been responsible for academic and student affairs programs for the College of Arts and Sciences, the Crummer Graduate School of Business, and the Hamilton Holt School for Evening and Graduate Studies. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate

of Furman with a degree in English, he joined the Rollins faculty in 2000 after serving as a professor and administrator for nine years at Birmingham-Southern College in Alabama.

In announcing Casey’s appointment, Mary Lynn Durham, vice chair of McDaniel’s board of trustees and head of the presidential search committee, said, “During the search interviews and campus visits, Dr. Casey distinguished himself as a visionary leader who understands McDaniel’s steadfast commitment to academic excellence through collaborative learning and deliberate faculty mentoring of students. We are absolutely confident that he will respect our traditions and realize our aspirations through focusing the college’s vision, advancing its mission and implementing its strategic plan.”

In a letter to the McDaniel community, Casey said, “As a product of a liberal arts education and

as a first-generation college student, I am a poster child for what a place like McDaniel can do for a person. I don’t have to read about it. I live it every day of my life. And I want to live that life in a collaborative community seeking justice and education for all.”

Casey, who holds advanced degrees from Florida State University, has taught classes in media and cultural studies, American literature, writing and drama. He has also been a theatrical producer, director and actor.

His scholarly interests include exploring the organizational behaviors of Generation X and the Millennials, examining literary and film depictions of teachers and students, and studying the impact of social media on higher education. His article “Meet the Millennials,” which examined the influences and attitudes shaping today’s college students, appeared in the Fall 2004 issue of *Furman* magazine.

CLASS NOTES POLICY

Because of the large number of submissions and clippings Furman receives for the magazine's class notes section and the time needed to review, compile and edit so much information, news items frequently are not published until five or six months after they are submitted.

Furman magazine does not publish dated items (anything more than 18 months old at time of publication) or engagement announcements. When sending news for class notes, please include your spouse's or child's name, whether your spouse is a Furman graduate, and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

When sent electronically, news about alumni couples who graduated in different years is included under the graduation date of the submitter. In other cases it goes under the earliest graduation date. It is not listed with both classes.

Send news to the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the on-line alumni registry (<http://alumni.furman.edu>) is included in class notes.

00

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Jessica Katherine Lynn has earned a Master of Social Work degree from Winthrop University.

Tracy Towle (M.A. '01) finished the 2009 Multirace sprint triathlon season as the top-ranked female triathlete in South Florida. She has been featured as an extra in several television shows, including "Burn Notice," and in the movie "Up in the Air."

MARRIAGES: **Jennifer Garrard** and John Kelly, October 17. They live in Monticello, Ill.

Sarah Lang and Joseph Bolick, May 24, 2009. They live in Butler, Tenn.

Nicholas Pennington and Lauren DeFalco, August 22. Nick is an attorney for Ballard Spahr LLP in Philadelphia, Pa.

Katherine Pharr Smith and Alexander Cullen Bryant, November 7. She is employed with the Newberry County (S.C.) School District and he with Verizon Wireless. They live in Columbia.

BIRTHS: Andre and **Emily Boland**

Abrantes, a son, William Gabriel, March 5, 2009, Reston, Va.

Russ and Rebecca **Chambliss**, a son, Russell William, December 9, Birmingham, Ala. Russ is a vice president with Mason Corporation.

John and Sherri **Dickens**, a daughter, Ally Grace, October 8, Atlanta.

Shane and **Catherine Hunter**

Frederick, a son, Connor Bowman, January 27, Greenville.

Robert and **Sara Rosenblum James**, a daughter, Sophie Isabella, May 29, 2009. They live in Tampa, Fla.

Andy and Melissa **Platt**, a daughter, Taylor Ann, September 3, Nashville, Tenn.

Timothy '01 and **Melanie Gladding Van Steenburgh**, a son, Tyler James, December 13, Gainesville, Fla.

Jamie and **Candace Cuddy Williams**, a daughter, Rigsby Caroline, November 12, Knoxville, Tenn.

Jeremy and **Logan Lane Wolfram**, a son, Zachary Hudson Wolfram, January 18. They live in Greenville where Jeremy works for Upward Unlimited sports ministry.

01

J. Matthew Boyleston, assistant professor of English and writing in the College of Arts and Humanities of Houston Baptist University, has been named chair of the school's Department of Languages.

Jael Gadsden, a singer and songwriter based in Los Angeles, won the SongwriterUniverse "Best Song of the Month" contest in February for her ballad "All I Need," co-written by Kevin Randolph. The song is included on her second album, released independently in April. SongwriterUniverse is an on-line educational/resource center assisting songwriters, artists, musicians and the general music community.

MARRIAGES: **Nicole Sheppe** and Ravi John Gupta, October 10. Nicole practices in the Spears & Robl Law Firm LLC in Decatur, Ga.

Jason Baynes Turnblad and Anna Hailey Powers, September 19. Anna is an associate attorney at the Powers Law Firm in Bennettsville, S.C., and Jason is assistant public defender in the state's Fourth Judicial Circuit.

BIRTHS: Leander and **Gabrielle Ferguson Cannick**, a daughter, Eleanor Grace, December 1. Gabrielle received her Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Dental Medicine degrees from the Medical University of South Carolina and is in private dental practice with her father in Charleston, S.C.

Brendan Betts and **Erica Kitchen**, a son, Hayden Alexander Betts, November 12, Raleigh, N.C.

Shea and **Aubrey Sloan Lambert**, a son, Asher Andrew, December 18, Tallahassee, Fla.

Joshua and Melissa **Linebaugh**, twin sons, David Michael and Luke William, September 29, Grand Blanc, Mich. Joshua is an emergency medicine resident.

02

Sandy Terrell Callahan has received a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the University of Connecticut.

Laura Anthony Linz has been hired by the board of Tryon (N.C.) Arts and Crafts as the organization's executive director. She previously was executive director of Upstate Visual Arts in Greenville.

MARRIAGE: **Daiva Liktorius** and Timothy Grubb, August 29. They live in Greenville where she is an art director at Erwin-Penland Advertising and he works for FTI Consulting.

BIRTHS: Bobby and **Joscelyn Fletcher Cox**, a daughter, Reagan Amelia, August 20. They live at Fort Bragg, N.C., where Bobby is a company commander in the 82nd Airborne Division.

Steven and **Ashley Borck Krusinski**, a son, Steven Charles, June 18, 2009, Charlotte, N.C.

03

MARRIAGE: **Brad Rustin IV** and Jessica Caroline Steadman, June 27, 2009. They are attorneys in Greenville, she with Allen Kopet & Associates and he with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP. They also coach the Furman Mock Trial teams.

BIRTH: **Brett and Merritt Squiers Shumate**, a son, Finley Charles, November 28. They live in Arlington, Va.

04

Kacy Herring Babcock earned her Master of Education degree in human development counseling from Peabody College of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt University. She and her husband, **Chris Babcock** '03, live in Dunedin, Fla.

FOR McCLARTY, DeKALB TRAFFIC ISSUES DRIVE DEVELOPMENT

IT'S NO SECRET that one of the biggest problems facing metro Atlanta is its intractable traffic congestion. As head of the Chamber of Commerce of one of the biggest counties in greater Atlanta, Leonardo McClarty is knee-deep in the trenches of dealing with the issue.

The 37-year-old McClarty, a 1996 Furman graduate, has been executive director of the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce since 2005. Located just east of Atlanta, DeKalb County was a suburb in the 1960s but is now as heavily urbanized as any part of Georgia. With about three-quarters of a million people, DeKalb is the third most populous county in the state and includes the cities of Decatur and Dunwoody, as well as Stone Mountain park, Emory University and the Perimeter Mall commercial area along Interstate 285.

Since becoming the chamber's chief, McClarty has taken a stagnant organization with declining membership and a dwindling financial base and made it viable again, according to Delores Crowell, a region manager for AT&T in Atlanta.

"He came to the chamber at a time that it was struggling, and his job was to turn it around," says Crowell, who was interim director before McClarty was hired.

McClarty, a political science major and running back on the football team at Furman, entered the economic development field after obtaining a master's degree in regional planning from Clemson. He moved up the career ranks by taking jobs in progressively larger cities before latching on with the DeKalb Chamber. In 2008 *Georgia Trend* magazine named him to its list of the state's "40 Best and Brightest Under 40."

One of McClarty's goals has been to encourage the chamber's smaller members to become environmentally sensitive in their business practices. He's made his point by organizing seminars and lunch talks about what small companies in other metropolitan areas are doing.



"It's one thing to be a Xerox or a Home Depot and to be green and have sustainable practices. They've got money for research and development, and they've got people who work in process improvement and supply chain and all of these specialties," McClarty says. "To companies that have five or six employees, it's different. We're just trying to help them understand what's out there."

Environmental concerns are also critical in the economic development component of

McClarty's job, particularly in terms of Atlanta's traffic and air quality. Because of issues like traffic congestion, and because of the constant rivalry with its much larger neighbor in Atlanta, the DeKalb County chamber director's most difficult challenge will remain economic development, Crowell says.

"It's a tough battle because we're so close to the city of Atlanta," she says. "We compete for the same customers as Atlanta. DeKalb County is so dense, there's not a lot of room to bring in new industry."

As Georgia's leaders have haggled for years — to date, without a solution — on how to pay for improvements to the region's roads and mass transit, McClarty and other business proponents have tried to persuade elected officials that without a firm plan, Atlanta could soon fall behind its Southeastern competitors, namely Charlotte, Nashville and Birmingham, in economic development.

"Traffic has gotten to the point where it dictates everything that you do," says McClarty, who lives in Tucker with his wife, Shaneka, and 2-year-old daughter. "It dictates when you take your kids to ballet or to baseball. It dictates when and where you schedule your meetings."

So while land use and zoning decisions are often topics of discussion with companies looking to move to or expand in DeKalb County, McClarty says traffic is on everyone's minds.

"One of our strengths for the Atlanta area is our roads. We've got the major interstates in I-85, I-285 and I-20," he says. "But the same thing that's a strength is also one of our weaknesses."

— ANDY PETERS

The author, a 1992 Furman graduate, is a reporter for the Fulton County (Ga.) Daily Report. Photo courtesy Leonardo McClarty.

Brian Geppi is an assistant vice president working for the chief operating officer in the Corporate Treasury Department of Bank of America. His wife, **Kelly Shedd '05 Geppi**, works as a health coach and care coordinator for Primary PhysicianCare and Wellness Coalition America. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

Reid Gormly appeared on the March 22 episode of "House" on FOX TV.

Tim McCauley is working on a master's degree in theology at the University of Notre Dame. He is also teaching Latin and New Testament Greek at Marian High School in South Bend, Ind.

Bess Hammond Olander of Falls Church, Va., has been named associate director of research operations with The Corporate Executive Board.

Wayne Waldon works in marketing and business development with General Dynamics Information Technology in Fairfax, Va.

MARRIAGES: **Scott Christopher** and Rachel Anne McKenna, February 20. They live in Norcross, Ga.

Lauren Ham and Scott Ayers, August 30, 2008. They live in Fort Hood, Texas. Scott is in the military and Lauren is employed at the Casey Memorial Library.

Mike Harris and Robin Steele, November 14. They live in Memphis, Tenn., where Mike is a district manager with Enterprise Commercial Trucks and Robin works for Wachovia Bank.

Lauren Preskitt and Brian Hall, September 26. She is a counselor at Double Churches Elementary School in Columbus, Ga. Brian is a registered nurse and works as house supervisor at St. Francis Hospital.

Jaime Webb and John Conger, December 12. They live in Tuscaloosa, Ala. She is an associate attorney with Fisher Law Firm, PC, and he has his own law practice.

BIRTHS: **Andrew '02 and Piper Lanier Moritz**, a son, James McNair Moritz, August 23. Andrew is completing a residency in orthopaedics and Piper teaches history and French at The Steward School. They live in Richmond, Va.

Joanna Rickard and Ryan "Tanner" Henderson '05, a son, Davis Maxwell Henderson, July 30. Joanna is employed as service learning coordinator in the Cameron School of Business at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. Ryan is a stockbroker with Scottrade.

Richard and **Carrie Flowers Woodward**, a son, Robert William, January 17, Dallas, Texas.

05

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

A sermon by **Greg Dover**, associate pastor of Earle Street Baptist Church in Greenville, won the first "Working Together for Peace" sermon-writing challenge sponsored by Safe Harbor of Greenville, a non-profit organization providing shelter for victims of domestic violence.

Lyndsey Hurst graduated from Mercer University Law School and is an assistant attorney general in the capital litigation section of the Georgia Attorney General's Office in Atlanta. She was admitted to the Georgia Bar in October 2009.

Allen Mendenhall earned a master's degree in English and a law degree from West Virginia University. A former adjunct legal associate at the Cato Institute, he is an LL.M. candidate at the Tokyo campus of Temple University Beasley School of Law.

MARRIAGES: **Carolyn Carrier and Michael McClimon '08**, January 2.

Both are pursuing doctorates at Indiana University in Bloomington, she in musicology and he in music theory.

Erin Fortenberry and Mark Presley, October 10. Erin completed her master's degree in occupational therapy and works for Pediatric Development Center of Atlanta, an outpatient occupational therapy clinic. Mark works in software engineering in the corporate office of Chick-fil-A.

Allison McCann and David Christopher Foy, March 13. Allison is associate director of donor relations at Furman, and Chris is manager of accounting and administration for Foreign Translations, Inc.

Inga Puffer and Michael Shade, November 7. They live in Greenville.

Kate Turnbull and Nate Rullman, October 24. Kate is assistant director of reunion and leadership annual giving at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Buckley Warden IV and Michelle Rowling, August 22. They live in Richmond, Va.

BIRTHS: Blake and **Lauren Kiser**

Meekins, a son, Bryce Edward, January 1. They live in Columbia, S.C.

Jeffrey '04 and Amy Wagner Mullins, a daughter, Grey Kirtland Mullins, August 16, Baltimore, Md. Jeff is a urology resident at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

06

Olivia De Castro and her sister, **Karen DeCastro '01 Lopez-Jordan**, have joined with their mother, Diana, to open an e-commerce children's boutique called Diana Classic Children. The business is based in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., and features Furman smocking. Visit the Web site, www.dianaclassicchildren.com.

Emily Moore received her law degree from Campbell University's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law and is practicing family law with the firm of Marshall DuBree in Raleigh, N.C.

Kimberly Witherspoon has joined the Greenville law firm of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd in the group's public finance practice. She earned her law degree from Georgetown University.

MARRIAGES: **Lisa Gentilini** and Colin Wilkinson, December 1, 2008. They live in Tucson, Ariz. Lisa is marketing communications manager for a non-profit medical foundation. Colin works for Rain Bird Corporation and is completing his MBA degree at Eller College of the University of Arizona.

Catherine Lee and Mark DeBoy, September 5. They live in Washington, D.C., where Mark is an intellectual property attorney and Catherine is a pediatric nurse.

ADOPTION: Michael and **Jamie Jones**

Hedges, a son, LaRue Nahom Roberts Hedges. They brought him home from Ethiopia January 30. They live in Conway, S.C.

07

Todd Arant earned a Master of Music degree from Emory University and has accepted a position as the traditional worship arts leader at Apex (N.C.) United Methodist Church.

Blake Serra of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was recently promoted by IBM to South Florida education/government client manager.

MARRIAGES: **Laura Babcock** and Anderson Baxley, August 8. They live in Clearwater, Fla.

Parthenia Luke and Mandrallius

Robinson '06, July 25. He is a sports writer for *The Greenville News* and owner of Jungle Gem Sports. She is the academic coordinator for Potential Youth Foundation and a part-time student at the University of South Carolina, working on a Master of Social Work degree.

08

Maryanne Henderson began an internship in January with the White House's Office of Faith-Based and Community Partnerships. She previously worked with the United Way in Greenville and with Mere Christianity Forum, a ministry at Furman dedicated to the exploration of thoughtful Christian faith.

MARRIAGE: **Kirsten Nelsen** and **Michael Erickson** '09, July 11. They live in Greenville.

09

David Edson is pursuing a master's degree in mechanical engineering at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

Lance Canington has joined ScanSource in Greenville as a sales representative.

MARRIAGE: **Adair Catherine**

Sturdivant and Daniel Paul Bard, January 16. He is a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox.

DEATHS

James F. Howard, Jr. '35, January 25, Greenville. He enjoyed a career as a food broker for Blue Ridge Brokerage Company. He was also a partner in Cannon Brokerage Company and owner of Howard of Greenville. Before retiring in 2009, he was a partner with Robert E. Nix in Triangle Sales. As a member of the Rotary Club, he achieved 47 years of perfect attendance. He served on the organization's board and was a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member and a multiple Paul Harris Fellow. He was a member of the board and president of the Phillis Wheatley Association. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Lucille Lopp '36, March 2, Lexington, N.C. She was a longtime nurse and health professional in North Carolina and received the 1977 Public Health Nursing Award from the State Public Health Association. She

joined the Guilford County Department of Public Health in a supervisory position in 1949 and remained there until her retirement in 1986. A conference room in the health department is named in her honor. She was active in her church, Liberty Baptist, and was author of the church's history. A scholarship in her name has been established at Davidson County Community College.

Giles A. Jenerette '37, December 28, North Myrtle Beach, S.C. As a World War II veteran, he earned a number of combat decorations, among them the Distinguished Service Cross, the British Military Cross and the Purple Heart. After the war he returned to Mullins, S.C., to practice law and to serve as company commander of the Mullins unit of the South Carolina National Guard. In the early 1960s he returned to active military duty to serve a tour in the Pentagon, after which

he became a teacher in Conway, S.C., and then assistant principal at Conway High School, from which he retired in 1981.

David Ingram Purser III '37, January 21, Decatur, Ga. He was an English professor at Clemson and Western Carolina universities. He was also a retired lieutenant commander in the Navy Reserve and was a veteran of World War II.

Eleanor Stanley White '37, December 2, Spartanburg, S.C. After graduating from Furman, she did graduate work at the Juilliard School and at Columbia University while serving on the faculty of the Riverdale Country Schools in New York City. She moved to Spartanburg to teach at Converse College from which she retired as an associate professor. She later served for seven years as director of cultural events at Skylyn Place in Spartanburg.

FIELD DAY, CIRCA 1899

THIS POSTCARD from the Special Collections and Archives department of the James B. Duke Library captures a scene from the Furman Athletic Association's Field Day on April 7, 1899. It offers a striking view of Richard Furman Hall and the Old Main tower.

The first Field Day — now a defunct tradition — was held November 26, 1891, at the old campus in downtown Greenville. Participants competed in such events as the standing high kick, sack race, tug of war and apple eating contest.

Special Collections and Archives has a copy of the 1899 Field Day program. Visit the department's page on Facebook (just go to Facebook and search for Furman Special Collections) to see various historical treasures from the university's archives.

The department is interested in collecting other Furman memorabilia. If you have items you would like to donate, contact danielle.fisher@furman.edu, (864) 294-2194.



Mary Olive Rude '38, December 25, Greenville. She was a supervisor with Liberty Life Insurance Company, retiring after 43 years of service. She was a past member of the Furman Alumni Board and sang with the Trinity Lutheran Church choir for more than 65 years.

Harry Lee Baumgardner '39, February 10, Greenville. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in England and France. After military service, he was a partner in the former commercial real estate firm of Putnam and Baumgardner. He was a former member of the Greenville Real Estate Board and served as the board's president. He was a former member of the Greenville Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Exchange Club, the Lions Club and the Furman Paladin Club.

Elizabeth Reid Christenberry '39, January 5, Augusta, Ga. She served as First Lady of Shorter College in Rome, Ga., and Augusta (Ga.) College during the presidencies of her husband, the late **George Christenberry** '36. She was active in civic affairs and in local music ensembles and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Josephine Harris Layton '39, January 19, Newberry, S.C. She taught for many years in the public schools of Newberry County. She was a past president and member of the Newberry County Retired Teachers Association, a board member of the South Carolina Retired Teachers Association, an officer and member of the Fidelis Delta chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa and a member of the Newberry Literary Study Club. She assisted with the publication of the Newberry County Family History Book.

Ruth McCain Dawsey '41, January 7, Myrtle Beach, S.C. She was a teacher, retiring in 1981 after more than 30 years of service. She was in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Margaret Sparks Kolb '41, January 5, 2009, Little Rock, Ark. She was a community leader and staunch advocate for education and improving race relations. In 1958 her home became a makeshift headquarters for a group of women who supported the reopening of Little Rock's four public schools after the schools were closed because of opposition to desegregation. She worked with four medical auxiliaries and with the state and national chapters of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. She served on the board of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, which honored her for her service, and was legislative chair of the Little Rock branch of the American Association for University Women. She was "Mother of the Year" and the Kolb family was "Family of the Year" in Little Rock, and she was the first director of the Pulaski County Agency on Aging. Always active in denominational work, she was director of religious education at First Baptist Church in Asheville, N.C., before moving to Little Rock.

Mary Lee Mies Lanford '41, January 20, Greer, S.C.

Isaac Post Pitts '41, February 22, Camden, S.C. After service in the U.S. Marine Corps and the Army during World War II, he returned to the family business and ultimately served as CEO of Hermitage Cotton Mill until its sale and his retirement in 1980. He was a former Furman trustee and served on the boards of South Carolina National Bank (Wachovia) and American Mutual Insurance Company.

Myrtle Craver Bradham Riggs '41, January 30, Charleston, S.C. She was a distinguished community volunteer and avid supporter of the College of Charleston, from which she held an honorary degree and was twice named Alumnus of the Year.



CRAWFORD WAS ART CONNOISSEUR

ALLEN CRAWFORD WAS A PASSIONATE COLLECTOR of early American art and furniture who loved to share his knowledge and his collection with others — including his alma mater.

Crawford, a 1936 alumnus who died March 17 at the age of 95, donated or loaned to Furman more than 80 items to beautify the campus, from furniture and rugs to paintings and antiques. Cherrydale, the university's Alumni House, was a special beneficiary of Crawford's generosity and is decorated with a number of pieces that he provided.

After earning his Furman degree and doing graduate work, Crawford spent seven years with the American Baptist Convention as a consultant in religious education. In 1947 he shifted careers and went to work in public relations with the Ford Motor Company in New York, where he remained until retiring in 1971. He then returned to his home state of South Carolina, settled in the Belton-Honea Path area and converted an old school house into his home and gallery.

In his estate Crawford left a benefaction that will ensure the maintenance of his and other gifts of antiques at Furman. To recognize Crawford's generosity, the university has named a conference room and a circular drive at Cherrydale in his honor.

Eleanor Coddington Bennett '42, June 14, 2009, Bergen-Hackensack, N.J. She worked as an administrative assistant in a doctor's office in Hackensack for 25 years and was a volunteer member of VITA in the Maywood Public Library.

Paul Morgan Vernon '42, February 28, Travelers Rest, S.C. A veteran of the Pacific theatre in World War II, he was the longtime owner of Vernon's Drug Store and also served as a Greenville County magistrate. He was a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the state of South Carolina.

Edith Wells Watson '42, December 15, Orlando, Fla. She was a teacher and retired after many years at Winter Park (Fla.) High School. During World War II she worked on the Manhattan Project.

William Harlan Hughes '44, January 3, Greenville. He served in the European Theatre during World War II, later returning to Furman to complete his degree. He worked as a reporter for the *Greenville Piedmont* and also as an independent insurance agent with the C. Douglas Wilson Company. He was a lifelong student of history and was a poet who was active in numerous organizations in the Greenville community.

Joseph Adams Allen, Jr. '45, December 27, Greenville. He was a chiropractor, a U.S. Army Air Corps veteran, and a Mason.

Frances Hand Beaver '45, March 9, 2009, Williamston, S.C. She was a retired teacher from Anderson School District 1.

Ansel Ravenel Scott '45, January 15, Greenville. He worked for many years with Keys Printing and Faith Printing. Upon retirement, he discovered a love for woodworking and was a founding member of the Greenville Woodworker's Guild. He served as a navigator during World War II.

Kenneth P. Stuart '45, November 11, Greencastle, Pa. He was the former head of the social studies department at Carson Long Military Institute.

Maxwell Lewis Coleman, Sr. '46, March 2, 2009, Lakeland, Fla. He was a retired minister of Baptist Tabernacle. He was also the retired owner of Imperial Barber Shop and was a representative for New Man Hair Replacement for 40 years.

Charles Alexander Jones '46, November 17, Columbia, S.C. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 30 years, fighting in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, where he was recognized with a Bronze Star. He retired from the military as a lieutenant colonel. He was a past president of the Richland Sertoma Club, an active member of Forest Lake Club, the Camellia Ball, the

Caprician, the Evening Music Club, the Palmetto Mastersingers and the St. Andrews Society of Columbia.

Clyde Furman McAlister '46, November 14, Harrisonburg, Va. He was employed by colleges in North Carolina and Georgia before serving 19 years as vice president in charge of business affairs at Douglass College of Rutgers University in New Jersey. He and his wife, **Ann Lawrence** '45 **McAlister**, ran a bed and breakfast business for 10 years in Lynchburg, Va., and he was active in support of peace and environmental concerns.

Melba Carolyn Brannon '47, January 14, Boiling Springs, S.C. She taught school for 37 years, 34 of them at Boiling Springs Elementary School.

Dorothy Martin Harrison '47, December 23, Greenville. She was retired from St. Francis Hospital. She worked for more than 30 years with the Department of Social Services and the Greenville Hospital System.

Thomas J. McMahon, Sr. '47, November 26, Southbury, Conn. He was employed for many years as an agent with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Later he worked as a bus driver for the Bethel School System.

Inez Bridwell Merritt '47, December 13, Aiken, S.C.

Julia Courtenay Campbell '48, October 17, 2008, Charlottesville, Va.

George Harold Garrett, Sr. '48, May 30, 2009, Anderson, S.C. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and retired after 38 years with the Exxon terminal in Belton, S.C.

Joe J. Gilstrap '48, January 5, Greenville. He was retired from The Liberty Corporation as risk manager after 45 years of service. He helped to found the South Carolina chapter of the Risk and Insurance Management Society and served as its first president. He was a Shriner and a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

TWO WOMEN WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

THE FURMAN COMMUNITY MOURNED THE LOSS of two highly regarded former staff members this winter with the deaths of Dot Ensor and Dot Gentry.

Dorothy C. Ensor, who died January 29, retired from the university in 1986 after working for 19 years as executive secretary and administrative assistant to two presidents, Gordon W. Blackwell and John E. Johns. She also worked as a secretary at Clemson University and at a local textile firm, and as a legal secretary and deputy clerk of court of the U.S. District Court.

She was a two-time recipient of the annual service award presented by the student government association. Upon her retirement, Johns described her as "witty, cordial, unflappable and loyal," and praised her calming influence and high professional standards.

Dorothy Johnson Gentry died February 4. With the move to the new campus she became Furman's first postmistress, serving for 23 years until her retirement in 1982. She worked first from a small area in the student canteen in James C. Furman Hall before moving into roomier quarters when the student center was built.

Known for her patience, caring nature and good cheer, she was in many ways a surrogate mother to the students who worked for her. She was the sister of James Johnson, associate professor emeritus of economics and business.

Ella Lynes Gibbon Mark '48, October 22, Palatka, Fla. She was an accomplished musician and seamstress.

Ann Gault Straughan '48, November 26, 2008, McRae, Ga. She retired from the Telfair County School System after 28 years of teaching.

Edwin Lee Allen '49, December 3, Greenville. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and a retired school teacher and social worker.

James L. Banks, Jr. '49, January 17, Williamston, S.C. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, in which he was a medical corpsman, he later attended Maryland Hummel School, where he received the Hummel Award for Internal Medicine. He went on to be a general practitioner in the Williamston area. He was a member of the South Carolina Medical Association.

Rose Caldwell Bozard '49, November 29, Columbia, S.C. She taught at schools in Kentucky and South Carolina, tutored students in math and knitting, and was an active member of the Palmetto Quilters and Mid-Carolina Daylily Society. She was also a volunteer with families of Alzheimer's patients.

Johnnie "Buck" Buckner '49, July 7, 2009, Blacksburg, S.C.

Robert Charles McLane '49, December 13, Greenville. He served with the U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division in Japan from 1946-47, after which he earned his bachelor's degree, attended medical school and did postgraduate work in radiology. He practiced radiology in Greenville from 1961 until his retirement in 1992 and was a founding member of Greenville Radiology,

P.A. He served as president of the S.C. Radiological Society in 1974 and was an emeritus member of the Greenville County Medical Society, S.C. Medical Association, the American Medical Association and the American College of Radiology.

Inez Staton Spelts '49, February 6, Greenville.

Billie Alice Gorman Waldrop '49, November 29, Knoxville, Tenn. She was a teacher and librarian at several schools in the Knoxville area.

Linda Mayes Haynsworth Osborne '50, January 27, Greenville.

Van Hinton Porter '50, February 19, West Columbia, S.C. A World War II veteran who was awarded the Purple Heart, he went on to serve as pastor of churches in Texas and the Carolinas.

Edgar J. Sims, Jr. '50, January 19, Annapolis, Md. He and his wife founded MHI Hotels in 1957 and built the company to include numerous upscale hotels throughout the southeastern United States, trading under the Hilton, Crowne Plaza and Sheraton banners. Among his business accomplishments, he served as president of the American Motor Hotel Association in 1965. In 1964 he received the Motel Hall of Fame Award from *Hospitality* magazine. A past president of the Metro Washington Motel Association, Maryland Travel Council and Prince Georges Travel Promotion Council, he was an officer of the Maryland Economic Development Commission, the Prince Georges County Chamber of Commerce and the College Park Board of Trade. He was the Maryland Travel Person of the Year in 1983. A graduate of George Washington University law school, he was a 45-year member of the Terrapin Club at the University of Maryland. He was a four-sport letterman at George Washington High School in Alexandria, Va., and in 2001 was inducted into the Alexandria Hall of Fame.

Everett O. "Eddie" Edwards, Jr. '51, M.A. '56, November 22, Melbourne Beach, Fla. He was formerly associated with General Electric Jet Engine Parts as business manager. He was an All-American over-70 softball player for several years.

Paul W. Haley, M.A. '51, January 31, Columbus, Ohio. He was director of the Ohio Department of Education's Division of Teacher Education and Certification from 1967 through 1990. He then accepted a professorship at Ashland University, where he taught on the graduate level for 10 years before retiring. In 2002 he received a Lifetime Service Award from Ashland. He held honorary degrees from Rio Grande University and Findlay University, along with many honors from local, state and national education organizations. He began his tenure in education as a high school teacher and then served as guidance counselor, psychologist and personnel director. He was a paratrooper in World War II and earned the EAME Service Medal, two Bronze Stars and the World War II Victory Medal.

Ann Garrison Sellers '51, January 22, Charlotte, N.C. She worked for several years as a teacher in Greenville and was president of the Greenville Junior League. After moving to Charlotte she served as president of Charlotte Latin School's Parents Council, the Charlotte Assembly and the Wing Haven Foundation.

Roy George Foster '52, January 18, Roanoke, Va. He was retired from Moone's Building Supplies as a merchandise buyer. He was a volunteer for the Presbyterian Community Center in Roanoke.

Callie Ruth Allen Godfrey '52, January 22, Ninety Six, S.C. She worked as a department manager for Rose's Stores.

Anne Kinard Davenport '53, January 20, Rocky Mount, N.C.

Jean Piccolo Wilson '53, March 5, Greenville. She spent her career as an administrative assistant with several different industries.

Fletcher Allen '54, February 27, Franklin, Tenn. He was the retired editor of the *Baptist & Reflector*, the state newspaper of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, where he worked from 1987-98. Before then he edited the *Baptist True Union*, the denomination's newsjournal for Maryland and Delaware, and was the longtime associate editor of South Carolina's *Baptist Courier*. He served in the U.S. Army in West Germany from 1954-56. He was a reporter and editor for the *Florence* (S.C.) *Morning News*, assistant advertising and public relations manager with Sonoco Products Company in Hartsville, S.C., and for six years was news director and alumni magazine editor at Furman. Active in international missions, he was the author of three books, the most recent being a collection of poetry titled *Plowing Wind and Time*.

Betty Jean Plyler Lane '54, December 2, Waynesville, N.C. She was an educator who taught in North Carolina, Illinois, Indiana, Texas and Michigan. She was an artist, a patron of the arts, and a passionate advocate for human rights, especially for the disabled, children, women and minorities.

John Eugene Madden, Sr. '54, January 4, Greenville. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and the 378th Military Police Unit and was retired from Food Equipment Company. He was a Shriner and longtime member of the American Legion.

Fulton "Bob" Rogers '54, November 8, Richmond, Va. He was a retired chemist with DuPont where he worked for 35 years.

Emily Jane Mainwaring Adams '56, February 1, Greenville. She was a certified public accountant, a church pianist and past treasurer for the Henderson County (N.C.) Gem and Mineral Society.

Robert Eldon Bingham '56, January 30, Athens, Ga. He was a lecturer at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and an adjunct professor at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served churches in Joseph, Mo., Greenville and Atlanta and was vice president of services of the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board in Atlanta from 1972 until he retired in 1989. He was the author of seven books and more than 200 articles, and with his wife he conducted conferences on coping with long-term illness. During World War II he was a lieutenant junior grade in the U.S. Navy.

Don C. Garrison '56, February 27, Easley, S.C. He was president of Tri-County Technical College for 32 years until his retirement in June 2003. The college's Pendleton campus is named in his honor. Early in his career he was a football coach at three Upstate high schools and also was an administrator and interim president at Greenville Technical College. He earned the A. Wade Martin Award from the S.C. State Board for Technical Education and the Marie Y. Martin Administrators Award and President of the Year Award from the American Association of Community College Trustees. He was president of the Aerospace Education Foundation from 1981-84, received the Air Force Association's Medal of Merit, and chaired the board of the South Carolina Military Family Care Association. The state of South Carolina awarded him its highest civilian honor, the Order of the Palmetto, as well as the Order of the Silver Crescent.

Elineda Padgett Trotter '56, February 6, Greenville. She worked as an administrative assistant and social worker for Shriners Hospital for 20 years. She later was co-owner of Orthopedic Services Inc. At the time of her death she was co-owner and manager of Branches Gift Shop.

John Perkins “Pete” Matthews

’57, February 1, Greenville. After serving in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, he was accepted as a pediatric intern and resident at Vanderbilt University and received a fellowship in pediatric cardiology. He worked with The Christie Group of Greenville before joining the Greenville Hospital System in 1976 as program director of the Department of Pediatrics, a position he held for 24 years. He was also a practicing pediatric cardiologist from 1976 to 2009. Active in establishing the Children’s Hospital of the Greenville Hospital System, he was named the 2000 Pediatrician of the Year. In 2008 he received two major honors, a career achievement award from the South Carolina Chapter of the Academy of Pediatrics and the William Weston Distinguished Service Award for Excellence in Pediatrics from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

Nell Batson ’58, January 6, 2009, Covington, Ga.

Ronald Edward Jordan ’60, January 4, Columbia, S.C. He worked for the Internal Revenue Service and then the South Carolina National Bank in Greenville and Columbia, retiring as a vice president. He was involved in community recreational programs, coaching both softball and baseball and working with the Little League program in Columbia. He co-founded a prison ministry at Wateree Correctional Institution and was a devoted friend of Congaree National Park. He served in the U.S. Army.

Ellen Geiger Vassy Walker, M.A. ’60, January 13, Greenville. She was a teacher and principal in the School District of Greenville County and was for two years director of the local chapter of Head Start, the preschool readiness program. She was a life member of Delta Kappa Gamma and

the South Carolina Education Association, and was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Marna Wood Snow ’62, December 18, Simpsonville, S.C. She served as a WAVE in the U.S. Navy during World War II and became a dental technician at the Marine barracks in Parris Island, S.C. After receiving her college degree, she taught math and science at Hillcrest High School from 1962 to 1970, then transferred to Bryson Middle School where she taught from 1970 to 1984. She was a member of the Simpsonville Order of the Eastern Star and bowled for many years with the “Young at Heart” league.

Smilie Jean Taylor Williams ’62, December 15, Florence, S.C. She served as pianist and organist at First Baptist Church of Florence for more than 25 years. She worked and performed with private students, choral groups, churches and community organizations, including the Florence Little Theatre and Florence Symphony. She was an office manager for the Pee Dee Cardio Vascular Surgeons group.

Rhett Wayne Lewis ’65, December 21, Pensacola, Fla. He was an aviator in the U.S. Army, flying helicopters in Vietnam. Among his service medals were the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal and Silver Star. He was awarded the Parachutist Badge and Senior Army Aviator Wings. He was also awarded the Distinguished Honor Graduate Air Cavalry Attack Helicopter Commanders Training Course NR 3-73 USAARMS at Fort Knox, Ky. He was a lifetime member of the Bullwhip Squadron 1/9 1st Cavalry Air Mobile and the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association.

Nancy Stewart Watson ’65, December 20, Greenville. She was a former partner of Stewart Supply Company and also

worked for Mayfield Carpets. She was active in the Chamber Music Association of Greenville and former organist at Fountain Inn Presbyterian Church.

Jerry Leland Wyatt ’70, January 10, Tucson, Ariz. He was a principal and director of Lang Wyatt Construction, a commercial contractor whose clients included government, educational and business organizations.

Jack A. Batson ’73, December 4, Travelers Rest. He was employed as a project manager at Fluor for 36 years.

Michael J. Lindsey ’73, January 4, Marietta, S.C. He taught at Berea Middle School and coached football, basketball, track and soccer at Berea High School for almost 30 years. He was a member of the South Carolina Coaches Association.

Edward Lamarr Gwinn ’74, December 27, Greenville. He saw military service in Vietnam, Okinawa and Taiwan. He worked with Michelin North America for 25 years, retiring from a senior management position with the Singapore office. For the last six years of his life, he ran a consulting and investment firm in Shanghai, China.

Susan Lakusta Cullen ’76, February 18, Austin, Texas. She served as president of the Texas Career Development Association and was a member of the Career Planning and Adult Development Network. Other affiliations included the National Career Development Association, the Texas Counseling Association, the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, the World Future Society eWomen Network, and the Greater Austin Chapter of the International Coach Federation. She was also a commissioned leader and trainer in the Stephen Ministry, a nondenominational lay caregiving ministry. Memorials may be designated to Furman’s Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection, with which Sue was deeply involved.

Fred D. Culcleasure ’77, February 2, Tallahassee, Fla. His career included tenures as a professor at Wake Forest University and Livingston College. He also worked as president of BB&T’s audit department and with Fannie Mae. More recently he was employed by Southeast Corporate Federal Credit Union in Tallahassee as the chief audit and compliance officer.

Richard Lee Watkins ’77, January 25, Fort Mill, S.C. He was a former employee of Duke Power Co. After earning his master’s degree he taught English to speakers of other languages. In 1992 he moved to Poland where he served for more than 17 years as a missionary with Mission to Unreached People.

Joseph John Zabriskie ’77, January 17, Augusta, Ga. He taught in middle schools in Aiken, S.C., and Richmond County, Ga., before retiring as principal from Butler High School in 2004.

John Thompson Douglas, Jr., MBA ’78, December 14, Greenville. He was a real estate investor.

Julie Sutherland Robinson Hungerford, M.A. ’78, January 21, Greenville. She was a gifted pianist who taught and performed at many social and cultural events. In 1970 she began a career in education, teaching kindergarten in the Greenville area before becoming an assistant principal.

Gregory Wade McCulloch ’82, December 11, Jonesborough, Tenn. He was a professional golfer and worked for a time in the Virgin Islands.

Keith Potter ’82, January 29, Leesburg, Fla.

Roman Jerry Woodall ’87, December 8, Clemson, S.C. He was an employee of GNC.

JoAnna Morris Anastos ’91, November 30, Greenville. She was formerly with Hartford Insurance Company.

FLOYD THE CHOICE AS NEW CONDUCTOR OF SINGERS

AFTER GRADUATING FROM FURMAN IN 1984, Hugh Floyd went on to earn advanced degrees from two prestigious institutions, Eastman School of Music and the University of Michigan.

He conducted choirs, orchestras and oratorio choruses in the South and Midwest, led workshops and master classes throughout the country, and taught at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan, where his voice students included Jewel and Josh Groban.

Since 1997 he has been on the faculty at Oberlin (Ohio) College Conservatory of Music, serving as director of choral studies at the oldest continuously operating conservatory of music in the nation.

Now, he's ready to step into the big time — at least from Furman's perspective.

This fall, Floyd becomes just the third conductor in the 64-year history of the Furman Singers, following the group's revered founder, DuPre Rhame (1946-70), and his legendary successor, Bingham L. Vick, Jr., who retires this year after 40 years at the helm.

Pretty big shoes to fill? Floyd — relaxed, cheerful and animated — readily agrees. And he wouldn't have it any other way.

"The Singers are a true legacy choir," he says. "You appreciate your membership for your lifetime. It means so much to so many.

"You don't find many choirs that have such a healthy mix of human, spiritual and musical elements. It's apparent DuPre Rhame valued those ideals, and I know Bing does too. It's an honor to have the chance to maintain and further that legacy."

Had Floyd any doubts about his interest in the position, they were dispelled last summer when he was among the 350 alumni who returned to Greenville for the final Furman Singers reunion under Vick's direction.

"That weekend confirmed my decision to apply," he says. "I came to honor Bing, but also to get a sense of the situation. And I realized anew what Furman and the Singers are. To see such galvanizing support — it's the kind of choir anyone would want to lead."

Although he loved his time at Oberlin, the emotional ties to Furman were strong. "I wanted to give back to a school that was so amazing and nurturing for me," he says. "And I truly value the liberal arts. At Oberlin [with the conservatory], they're separate entities. At Furman, they mesh very well. It's a real strength."

As for Floyd's selection, music department chair Bill Thomas says, "Hugh is well aware of the priceless legacy of quality and success of the choral music program at Furman. He is one of the most highly regarded and able choral artists in the country, and we feel very fortunate to have been able to convince him that 'home' is a good place to be."

Vick is equally complimentary: "There is no doubt in my mind that Hugh Floyd is the right choice to continue to move the Furman Singers forward."

Floyd spent his formative years in Greenville, taking part in Furman music

camps as a youngster. He attended Davidson for a year before transferring to Furman, where he quickly became known for his talent and unflagging energy. He was student conductor of both the Furman Symphony Orchestra and the Singers, and through the years he has continued to cross the bridge between orchestral and choral groups. Such dexterity, he says, has paid off handsomely in terms of his musical knowledge and understanding.

After he earned his master's degree from Eastman, a succession of teaching and conducting jobs followed. While at Interlochen he benefited from the opportunity to study under Margaret Hillis, who had been one of Vick's mentors. Floyd would travel to Chicago once a month to pore over scores with her and discuss how different conductors would handle them.

"It really helped me understand my undergraduate work better," he says, referring to the Vick-Hillis link. "It brought me full circle."

More recently, on a sabbatical from Oberlin, he lived in New York where he observed at the Juilliard School, studied English cathedral music and dabbled in musical theatre — to the point that he received a call back for a role in the national tour of "The Producers."

He says, "I know about graduate school, but I wanted to see how solo singers make it in New York and what happens when they try to go directly to Broadway. How does the professional world compare to the academic? Students want to know, and as a teacher it's my responsibility to understand how things work."

Given his clear feeling of connection to Furman and his excitement about returning to alma mater, Hugh Floyd says he's ready to build on the well-established traditions and culture of the Furman Singers — and to take the group another step forward.

Dr. Floyd, the baton is now yours. Welcome to the podium.

— JIM STEWART



THE LAST WORD



JEREMY FLEMING

Getting involved — sustainably

AFTER ROLLING OUT OF BED 15 minutes before class starts, the Purple Paladin's life begins. Class, class, lunch, class, meeting, workout, shower, dinner, meeting, library, crash!

It doesn't sound much different from the life of any other college student. What is different, though, is that Furman students go through the daily grind sustainably.

Furman's numerous sustainability projects and programs are so much a part of students' daily lives that they may not even realize that their routine actions are, in fact, reducing their environmental impact. Furman students use less water because of low-flow showerheads, consume organically grown herbs from the Furman Farm, and soon, their apartments will be heated and cooled with geothermal heat pumps.

With a little effort, students can become even more involved in sustainability issues by volunteering

at the Furman Farm, joining one of the many sustainability-oriented student groups, or collaborating with professors on sustainability research.

To further engage the campus, I have worked with the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability to help establish a Campus Sustainability Help Desk, through which we answer questions from students, faculty and staff. Also, through my contributions to the sustainability blog (<http://furmangreenscene.wordpress.com>), I am able to share my thoughts on sustainability issues and foster discussion on campus.

From my experiences this year, I have learned that one doesn't have to be an environmental sciences major to become involved in campus and national sustainability efforts. I'm no scientist, but I can use my interests in communications and journalism to raise environmental awareness. My work at the Shi Center has helped reveal these passions.

In celebrating the dedication of the Shi Center for Sustainability, we recognize Furman's role in producing generations of environmentally responsible citizens. Furman's comprehensive approach to sustainability helps us realize the impact of our actions today and how they will shape our world tomorrow.

— LANDRI TRIPP

The author, a member of the Class of 2013, is from Shelbyville, Ky., and plans to major in Spanish. She is a Bank of America Sustainability Fellow, a renewable award for incoming students who aspire to become leaders in sustainability in their communities. She made these remarks at the March 2 dedication of the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability.

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Meet the new Furman Singers conductor. **PAGE 47**

